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ABSTRACT

Drawing from existing data and a survey of each provincial or territorial child care office in Canada, this report provides a profile of child care services in each province and territory, and in the country as a whole. Each provincial profile includes information on: (1) relevant legislation; (2) the name and address of the provincial official responsible for child care; (3) types of child care services available; (4) services for children with special needs; (5) aboriginal child care; (6) provincial demographics, including data on mothers in the work force, children identifying with an aboriginal group, and children with disabilities; (7) family-related leave; (8) regulated child care spaces; (9) standards and regulations governing regulated centers and regulated family day care; (10) funding through grants and subsidies; (11) administration; (12) municipal role; (13) child care planning and development; (14) the history of child care in the province; and (15) recent developments. Twenty-one tables provide a national perspective on child care. The paper concludes with a 51-item list of further readings. (AC)

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CHILD CARE IN CANADA

PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES

1993

PS 022502

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Child Care in Canada:

Provinces and Territories

1993

Childcare Resource and Research Unit

THANKS TO...

The method and content of this report were designed by Gillian Doherty who assembled the data from provincial/territorial child care officials as well as other sources. Many individuals were generous with their time and patiently responded to our requests for details, verification and clarification, not once, but several times. We are most appreciative of the help provided by: Vivian Randall, Helen Sinclair, Kathy Rochon, Cathy McCormick, Greg Gammon, Jane Grantmyre, Sharon Irwin, Diane Lutes, Bonnie Hamilton, Margaret de Serre, Carol de Gagné, Jocelyne Tougas, Sonia Ostrowska, Lola Bratty, Victor Severino, Rick Powers, Gisela Rempel, Julie Friesen, Deborah Bryck, Tara Truemner, Dennis Maier, Marlene Jubenville, Jane Beach, Mab Oloman, Gayle Davies, Debbie Mauch, Wendy White-Cserepy, Theresa Wilson, Francine Knoops, Lynne Westlake and Howard Clifford.

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Martha Friendly

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of the data provided in this publication and to use the same terminology and categories across provinces/territories whenever possible. This was not always feasible, however, due to use of different terminologies, categories and data collection methods. In some cases, information which is consistent by date or definition was not available: where this occurs, dates and definitions are provided or noted in the text.

METHOD

The data were assembled from a number of sources including existing Canada-wide sources (which are described below) and from each province/territory.

The method used to collect data from each province/territory followed a series of steps. First, a written questionnaire was sent to each provincial/territorial child care office, followed by a telephone interview with an official from each jurisdiction to assemble initial data for each province/territory. A written draft of the material was returned to each jurisdiction together with specific questions with a request to update or clarify data. A follow-up call was done with the respondent after compilation of each draft to avoid confusion and to provide an opportunity for additional comments. Further follow-ups were done throughout the editing stage to ensure that the information provided is as accurate as possible.

DATA SOURCES

Provincial context

- Number of children 0-12

Statistics Canada. (1992). *Age, sex and marital status*. 1991 Census of Canada. Catalogue number 93-310, Table 4. Ottawa, Ontario: Supply and Services Canada.

These data are based on questionnaires delivered to every household in Canada, including aboriginal communities, and is considered to be a 100% sample. However, some aboriginal reserves and settlements were incompletely enumerated because enumeration was not permitted or was not completed.

- Children 0-14 years identifying with an aboriginal group

Statistics Canada. (1993). *Age and sex*. 1991 Census of Canada. Aboriginal data. Catalogue number 94-327, Table 1 of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Ottawa, Ontario: Industry, Science and Technology Canada.

For the 1991 Census, either a long or short version of a standard questionnaire was distributed to all households across Canada. The long questionnaire included a question about the respondent's ethnic origins and another which asked if the respondent was registered under the *Indian Act of Canada*. The long questionnaire was distributed to all households on reserves and settlements and to approximately 20% of the remaining households in Canada.

The *Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS)*, done after the Census, attempted to include all people who indicated aboriginal origin and/or registration under the Indian Act on the long questionnaire.

Using a specially constructed questionnaire developed in consultation with the Assembly of First Nations, the Native Council of Canada, and the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, data were collected for the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey* through personal telephone or face-to-face interviews between October 1991 and the end of January 1992. The *Survey* is an estimate based on 20% of the total population. Seventy-seven percent of interviews were completed in aboriginal communities and those with a high aboriginal population; the completion rate in the remainder of the country was 79%.

The Census question about ethnic origin allowed more than one response, suggesting that there may be double-counting. However, there appears to be little double-counting in the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*.

- Children 0 - 14 years with disabilities residing at home

Statistics Canada. (1992). *Health and activity limitation survey: Back-up tables - Provinces and territories*. 1991 Census of Canada, Table 3. Ottawa, Ontario: Supply and Services Canada.

Statistics Canada defines a disability as "any restriction or lack (resulting from impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being" (*The Daily*, October 13, 1992). The same publication notes that among children with disabilities, only 10% have a disability in the moderate to severe range.

A question was included in the long 1991 Census form (distributed to 20% of households) which asked whether a person in the household was limited in kind or amount of activity due to a long-term physical, mental or health condition; it also included a question about whether long-term disabilities or handicaps were present. These two questions identified the population for a follow-up *Health and Activity Limitation Survey*. These data were collected through telephone or face-to-face interviews.

Information on children under 15 years was obtained from a parent or guardian. The overall response rate was 87%. Some data were not published by Statistics Canada because it considered the sampling error to be more than 33%. For the data used in this report, this problem arose primarily in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories and is, in fact, a reflection of the relatively small total population, of which the *Survey* covered only 20%.

- Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 years

Statistics Canada. (1993). *Labour force activity of women by presence of children*. 1991 Census of Canada. Catalogue number 93-325, Table 1. Ottawa, Ontario: Industry, Science and Technology Canada.

These data are based on the long version of the Census questionnaire which was distributed to approximately 20% of the households across Canada, excluding residents of institutions such as hospitals and penitentiaries. Only data pertaining to women who were not only in the labour force but were actively employed at the time of data collection were used.

- Children 0 - 12 years with mothers in the labour force

These data were provided by Howard Clifford, Human Resources Canada. They are derived from figures provided for the Status of Daycare in Canada by Statistics Canada.

- Family-related leave

Labour Canada. (1992). Family-related leave (pp. 85-102). *Employment Standards Legislation*. Ottawa, Ontario: Labour Canada.

The term "family responsibility leave" refers to days available on an annual basis to enable parents to fulfil obligations relating to the care, health or education of a minor child, for example, when the child is ill. It differs from maternity leave and parental leave, both of which occur once per child and are related to the period immediately prior to and after birth or adoption.

- Federal and provincial expenditures

Federal New Democratic Party Research Office. (1993). *Provincial expenditures on child care 1991/1992*. Ottawa, Ontario: Federal New Democratic Party Research.

The figures taken from this document were updated using data from the provinces/territories where possible.

- Salaries

Canadian Child Care Federation and the Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association. (1993). *Caring for a living: A study on wages and working conditions in Canadian child care*. Ottawa, Ontario: Canadian Child Care Federation.

This document was used to provide information on the mean hourly rate for different categories of staff in centre-based programs. Estimates of family day care rates were provided by the provinces/territories.

- History

Pence, A. (Coordinating Ed.). (1992). *Canadian child care in context: Perspectives from the provinces and territories, Volumes I and II*. Canadian National Child Care Study. Ottawa, Ontario: Statistics Canada and Health and Welfare Canada.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

LEGISLATION

Newfoundland. House of Assembly. *The Day Care and Homemaker Services Act*. RSN 1990, CD-2 and *Newfoundland Regulation 219/82* as amended to O.C. 979/82.

Newfoundland. House of Assembly. *Day Care and Preschool Licensing Requirements, Newfoundland and Labrador (1991-92)*

PROVINCIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated child care

Maximum number of children permitted 4

Figure includes the caregiver's own children under 12 years.

Regulated child care

Day care centres
Group care for less than 24 hours/day for 5 or more children from 2-12 years; may be full-day or part-time.

School-age child care
Centre-based care outside school hours for school-aged children up to 12 years.

Newfoundland does not offer regulated child care for infants or regulated family day care.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

One regulated centre works exclusively with children at environmental risk and their families, serving approximately 56 children at a time, some full-time and some part-time.

Financial assistance for fee subsidies for children with special needs integrated into child care centres may be available from government departments other than Social Services. There are no special training requirements for staff working with special needs children.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There are no regulated child care centres on native land. There is one regulated Inuit child care centre in Nain, Labrador.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)

0-2	22,230
3-5	23,160
6-12	62,875
Total 0-12	108,265

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)

0-2	12,609
3-5	13,016
6-12	33,456
Total 0-12	59,081

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	455	240	720
5-14 yrs	890	465	1,125

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	458	490	545
Speech difficulty	335	235	559
Developmental handicap	too small to be estimated	95	190

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	7,810
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	6,485
Total	14,295

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
17 weeks

Parental leave
12 weeks leave for each parent

Adoption leave
17 weeks

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - In Newfoundland, one reserve census subdivision, with an estimated total population of 188, was incompletely enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Data from this subdivision are not included.

3 - Excludes reserves. The figures related to developmental handicap should be used with caution. The standard deviation of the estimated developmental handicap figures is between 16.8% and 33.3%. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1992)

Centre-based

Full-day	2,376
Part-day	804
School-age	388
Total regulated spaces	3,568
Children with special needs in regulated child care (12/92)	82
Subsidized children (3/92)	891

Sponsorship of licensed centre spaces full-time (1992)

Non-profit	561
Commercial	1,889

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size 50 spaces

Maximum staff child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
2-3 yrs	1:6	25
3-6 yrs	1:8	25
7-12 yrs	1:15	25

Two rooms are required if more than 25 children are present.

Staff qualifications

Centre supervisors must have either a one year certificate in early childhood education and one year's experience in a licensed centre, or a 2 year diploma with no specifications regarding experience. A related degree with one year's experience in a licensed centre is considered a comparable qualification. Supervisors approved prior to 1989 may have a wide range of qualifications.

If more than 25 children are enroled in a centre, the Licensing Board recommends that a second person with supervisor qualifications be present.

Parent involvement

Centres are required to make efforts to encourage parents to visit their child(ren) in the centre. Otherwise, parent involvement is not specified.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

New staff must receive approval from the Day Care and Homemaker Services Board. Monitoring and enforcement is carried out by social workers employed by the Department of Social Services. In rural areas, social workers have generic caseloads including supervision of child care centres. Fire and health inspections are done by officials of the Welfare Institutions Licensing and Inspection Authority, a division of the Department of Health.

A license to operate a child care centre is issued to new centres by the Day Care and Homemaker Services Licensing Board for an initial probationary period of not more than 6 months. After this period, licenses are renewed for periods up to 3 years.

One monitoring visit to each centre every 6 months is required. Infractions result in a violation order to the centre requesting immediate compliance. The legislation authorizes a licensing hearing for non-compliance and closure of a centre if deemed appropriate.

Regulated family day care

Newfoundland does not have regulated family day care.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

Eligibility for fee subsidies is determined either through an income or a needs test. Working parents are assessed for eligibility through an income test. Social assistance recipients whose children attend child care for child development purposes are assessed for eligibility through a needs test.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$ 9,960	$18,240
2 parents, 2 children	$11,040	$19,320

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is considerable province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

Rates for subsidized spaces are set by the provincial government, based, in part, on the centre's actual costs. There is no differentiation in subsidy rates depending on the child's age.

The provincial fee subsidy budget is not open-ended. When all the allocated funds have been spent, eligible parents go on a waiting list.

Programs cannot surcharge subsidized parents in addition to the subsidy.

Approval from the Director of the Day Care and Homemaker Services Division is required before a centre can have more than 50% of its spaces subsidized.

Any licensed non-profit or commercial child care program is eligible to enrol subsidized children.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Start-up grants
Not available. Start-up grants, which had been $1,000 on a one-time basis for full-time non-profit or commercial centres, were suspended in May, 1993 due to budget reductions.

Equipment grants
Not available. Equipment grants, which had been $.20/space/day annually for regulated full-time non-profit or commercial centres, were suspended in May, 1993 due to budget reductions.

Capital grants
Not available

Operating grants
Not available

Infant incentive grants
There is no regulated care for children under 2 years.

Special needs grants
There is no grant specifically intended to encourage integration of children with special needs. However, subsidization of children with special needs may be available, on a case-by-case basis, through departments other than Social Services. The amount is usually equal to the regular fee charged by the program.

Other
The provincial government, together with Cabot College and Health and Welfare Canada, contributed $40,000 in 1992 to a pilot project for staff upgrading and certification. This project is funded until the fall of 1994.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fee subsidy program	$1,525,700
Grants	114,000
Training	28,400
Total	1,668,100

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $15.40
(estimate based on total provincial expenditures)

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimated) $1,008,000

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 5.57
Teachers	6.03
Teacher directors	6.54
Administrative directors	13.57
Overall mean hourly wage	$ 6.20 (approximately $12,500/year)

Family day care

Newfoundland does not have regulated family day care.

Fees (1992, average monthly)

Centres

Preschool	full-time	$360 - 380
	part-time	$ 60 - 200
School-age		$320

ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Social Services establishes standards and is responsible for allocating public funds on behalf of eligible families. The Day Care and Homemaker Licensing Board makes decisions about opening centres, issues and monitors licenses and approves staff to work in child care programs. The Day Care and Homemaker Licensing Board is a quasi-judicial body which is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and reports to the Minister of Social Services.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

None

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no provincial plan for the development of child care centres. New commercial and non-profit centres are licensed if regulation requirements are met. They may or may not receive funding since the start-up and equipment grants have been discontinued and a cap has been placed on the expansion of the number of fee-subsidized spaces.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

1900 Child care facility was established by the Presentation Sisters in Renews.

1968 *The Welfare Institutions Licensing Act* was enacted, authorizing licensing of child care facilities for children 2 years of age and older and prohibiting child care facilities for children under 2 years old.

1975 *The Day Care and Homemaker Services Act* was enacted, allowing public funds to be used for fee subsidies.

1976 *Day Care and Homemaker Services Regulations* were implemented with specific requirements for the operation of child care.

1982 New *Regulations* were drafted to replace those of 1976.

1985 The Association of Early Childhood Educators of Newfoundland and Labrador was established.

1990 *The Day Care and Homemaker Services Act* (1975) was consolidated to become the *Day Care and Homemaker Services Act RSN 1990 C.D. - 2.*

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

A report on school-age child care, *School-age child care study*, was released in January 1991 with recommendations for regulation changes.

In May, 1993, both the one-time start-up and the annual equipment grants were suspended due to budget reductions and a cap was placed on the expansion of the number of fee subsidies.

Proposals for a new child care act are under consideration and accompanying revisions to the existing regulations are being prepared.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

LEGISLATION

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Facilities Act*. 1988

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Facilities Regulations*. 1988

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Welfare Assistance Act*. 1988

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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated child care

Maximum number of children permitted 5

If all children are under 2 years, 3 are allowed; 5 preschoolers if not more than 2 of them are younger than 2 years; 6 in a mixed-age group up to 10 years with no more than 2 younger than 2 years.

Figure includes the caregiver's own children under 12 years.

Regulated child care

Early childhood centres
Group care for less than 24 hours/day for children from birth to 7 years including half-day kindergartens for children 5 years and half-day nursery schools for children 2-5 years.

School-age child care centres
Care outside school hours for school-age children (usually 6-12 years).

Occasional centres
Care on an irregular basis for children between birth and 10 years.

Family day care homes
Full-day care in a private home for mixed-age groups up to a maximum of 7 children, including the provider's own children under school-age.

Prince Edward Island does not provide kindergarten as part of the school system.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are no segregated child care programs for children with disabilities. Integration is encouraged although there is no specific policy. Grants may be available to centres to assist with the additional costs of caring for a child with special needs. There is no requirement for staff working with special needs children to have specialized training.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There is one kindergarten centre on native land; it is not licensed by the province.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT[1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)		Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)	
0-2	5,750	0-2	4,104
3-5	5,830	3-5	4,317
6-12	13,785	6-12	8,983
Total 0-12	25,365	Total 0-12	17,404

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991)[2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	65	nil	nil
5-14 yrs	120	nil	nil

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated)[3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	86	too small to be estimated	too small to be estimated
Speech difficulty	too small to be estimated	126	too small to be estimated
Developmental handicap	50	45	45

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	2,690
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	2,285
Total	4,975

16

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
17 weeks

Parental leave
17 weeks for either parent

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - In Prince Edward Island, 3 census subdivisions, on reserves and settlements, with an estimated total population of 145, were either incompletely or not enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. The data from these subdivisions are not included.

3 - Excludes reserves. The figures related to developmental handicap should be used with caution. The standard deviation of the estimated developmental handicap figures is between 16.8% and 33.3%. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1992)

Centre spaces

	Full-time	Part-time
Infants	107	—
Preschool	1,599	—
School-age	—	592
Special needs	50	—
Kindergarten/nursery	—	1,701
Total centre spaces	1,756	2,293

Family day care spaces 74

Total regulated spaces 4,123

Children with special needs in regulated child care (1992) 50

Subsidized children (1992) 391

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (1992)

	Full-time	Part-time	Total
Non-profit	1,377	1,280	2,657
Commercial	971	421	1,392

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size 50 spaces

Maximum staff child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-2 yrs	1:3	6
2-3 yrs	1:5	not specified
3-5 yrs	1:10	not specified
5-6 yrs	1:12	not specified
7+ yrs	1:15	not specified

Staff qualifications

Centre supervisors and one full-time staff member in each program must have at least a 1 or 2 year early childhood development diploma or university child study degree.

Thirty hours of in-service training every 3 years is required for all staff.

Parent involvement

Not specified

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Each year, every centre is visited for licensing purposes by Early Childhood Services, which observes programming, and by the Child Care Facilities Board, which concentrates primarily on administration. Annual inspections are required by the Fire Marshall's office and the Environmental Health Division of the Department of Health and Social Services.

If a centre is in non-compliance with the legislation, it may operate under a regular license but is given a specific time-frame in which to comply. Or it is permitted to have a provisional license for a period of 6 months, or it may have its license revoked or not renewed. A centre receiving a provisional license, or having its license revoked or not renewed may appeal directly to the Minister who then must establish an Appeal Board. This Board must conduct an inquiry and render a decision within 30 days.

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Regulated family day care

Regulation
Individually licensed

Maximum capacity
Up to 7 children including the provider's own children under 12 years, with a maximum of 3 children under 2 years.

Provider qualifications
A 30 hour training program, 2 letters of reference and current first-aid certificate.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Early Childhood Services conducts a program review using *The Family Day Care Rating Scale* (Harms & Clifford). Annual inspections are made by a Child Care Facilities Board inspector, an inspector from the Fire Marshall's office and an Environmental Health officer.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents. Eligibility is usually determined by an income test. However, an applicant may choose to be needs tested according to the Welfare Assistance Regulations.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point (estimated maximum)
1 parent, 1 child	$10,080	$22,200
2 parents, 2 children	14,880	39,168

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated. In Prince Edward Island, there is no fixed break-even point. The figures shown represent a family composition which determines subsidy eligibility generously.

Maximum subsidy by age of child (1993)

0-2 yrs	$22/day
2-3 yrs	18/day
3+ yrs	17/day

The fee subsidy program budget is limited. When funds are no longer available through this program, an eligible parent may be able to receive fee subsidization through the Welfare Assistance Program, if also eligible for welfare, or through the provincial Job Creation Program, if enroled in that program. Otherwise, the parent goes onto a waiting list.

There is no minimum user fee.

Centres and family day care homes cannot surcharge subsidized parents higher than the maximum subsidy rate.

Any regulated non-profit or commercial child care program is eligible to enrol subsidized children.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Start-up grants
Not available

Capital grants
Not available

Operating grants
Full-day centre-based programs
$0.91/day/space

Part-time centre-based programs (kindergarten, nursery schools and school-aged child care)

12 children or fewer	$ 682.50/year
24 children or fewer	1,092.00/year
50 children or fewer	1,820.00/year

The part-time grant is calculated according to months of operation and is less than stated above if the program operates less than 12 months a year.

Family day care homes
$450.00/year.

Infant incentive grants
An annual grant of $250 to licensed programs enroling at least one child younger than 2 years on a regular basis for at least 6 months.

18

Special needs grants
Centres may apply for funds to pay additional staff to provide individualized programming for children with special needs. The grant will cover wages up to $11.00/hour.

All licensed commercial and non-profit child care centres are eligible for all grants.

Other grants
Funds are allocated annually by the Department of Health and Social services to assist in the professional development of early childhood educators. This allocation is used to either sponsor or co-sponsor speakers for workshops or conferences and is usually $4,500 per year.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fee subsidies	$1,945,600
Operating grants	820,048
Total	$2,765,648

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $109.03
(Estimate based on total provincial expenditures)

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimate) $912,000

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$7.29
Teachers	7.25
Teacher directors	9.40
Overall mean hourly wage	$7.73 (approximately $16,000/year)

Family day care rates

Family day care providers receive a flat rate of $375.00 per month per child.

Fees (1991, average monthly)

Child care centres and family day care	
Infant	$530
Preschool	375
School-age - summer	350
School-age - before/after	150

ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Health and Social Services is responsible for the regulation of child care services and management of government funds allocated to child care.

The Child Care Facilities Board is responsible for standards and regulations, monitoring, qualifications and certification of child care staff. The Board includes 6 members who represent the Department of Health and Social Services, Department of Education, the Early Childhood Association, the public at large and a chair who is a public officer.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

None

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The provincial government has identified 5 broad principles which guide the planning process: quality, affordability, accessibility, providing for children with special needs and parental involvement.

The Child Care Facilities Board has introduced a new licensing application. This includes requiring the proposed centre to show the Board the needs analysis it conducted to prove the need for child care spaces in the area of the proposed centre.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

1950s Head Start program for economically and culturally disadvantaged children established in Charlottetown.

1969 Child care centres initiated in north-eastern rural P.E.I. with federal Regional Economic Expansion funding.

1971 St. Andrew's Child Development Centre in Inverness was established as a full-time child care centre. The provincial Department of Social Services was responsible for regulation and funding. Funding arrangements were established to pay the full operating costs for 6 non-profit, community-based centres.

1973 Enactment of *The Child Care Facilities Act*.

1974 The Early Childhood Development Association was established as a professional association of early childhood educators.

1977 The operating cost system was changed to a subsidy program for non-profit and commercial programs.

1987 Implementation of direct grants to licensed child care programs.

1988 Introduction of special needs grants to child care programs enroling children with special needs.

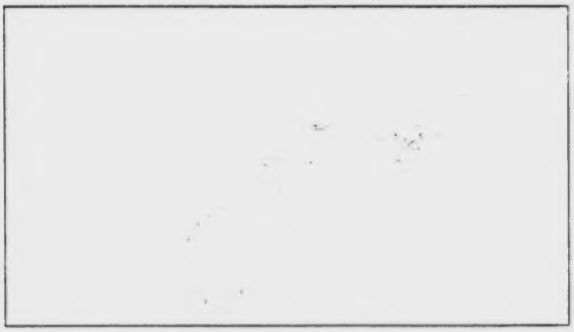
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The report of a working group set up by the Minister of Education has recommended that the age of entry into kindergarten and grade one remain as they have been and that a standard kindergarten play-based curriculum be designed.

The Minister of Health and Social Services directed the Child Care Facilities Board to establish a Kindergarten Curriculum Committee with representation from the Department of Health and Social Services, the Department of Education, Holland College, and kindergarten and grade one teachers. This Committee must report back to the Board by March 31, 1994.

In 1993, operating grants were reduced by 9% from 1992 levels, except for infants.

NOVA SCOTIA



LEGISLATION

Nova Scotia. Legislative Assembly. *Day Care Act and Regulations*. Chapter 6. 1980. As amended.

PROVINCIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

Gregory Gammon
Director of Day Care Services
Family and Children's Services
Department of Community Services
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Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T7

Telephone: (902) 424-3204

CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated care

Maximum number of children permitted 6

Six, in mixed-age groups. Eight children are permitted if all the children, including the caregiver's own children, are school-age.

Figure includes the caregiver's own preschool children.

Regulated child care

Child care centres
Care in a group setting for less than 24 hours/day for 7 or more children from 0-12 years. This includes: full-day child care centres, preschools, nursery schools, parent co-operatives, child development centres (half-day programs, 2 to 3 days/week) and programs for school-age children.

Family day care homes
Care in a private home for up to 6 children of mixed ages or 8 school-age children, including the provider's own children under 12 years. The homes themselves are not regulated, but are sponsored by an agency which is responsible for their supervision.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are 2 segregated child care programs, one for children with behaviourial problems (12 spaces) and the other for children with a variety of special needs (14 spaces). The provincial government establishes a daily rate for these 2 programs. Parents using the programs are income tested.

The provincial government has a policy of supporting integration. It does so by providing centres which enrol special needs children with a grant of up to $22/day/child to cover additional costs associated with integration.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There are several unlicensed child care centres on native lands.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)		Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)	
0-2	36,925	0-2	20,912
3-5	36,505	3-5	22,550
6-12	86,255	6-12	49,152
Total 0-12	159,685	Total 0-12	92,614

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	1,105	nil	nil
5-14 yrs	1,980	90	nil

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	515	728	652
Speech difficulty	580	1215	817
Developmental handicap	175	270	435

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	16,050
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	11,330
Total	27,380

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
17 weeks

Parental leave
17 weeks for each parent. Parental leave is available to either natural or adoptive parents.

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - Includes all reserves and settlements in Nova Scotia. Statistics Canada (Catalogue 94-327, 1993) notes that the figure for Métis children age 5-14 years in Nova Scotia should be treated with caution since the standard deviation of the estimate is between 16.6% to 33.3%.

3 - Excludes reserves. The figures related to developmental handicap should be used with caution. The standard deviation of the estimated developmental handicap figures is between 16.8% and 33.3%. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of a technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

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SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1992)

Centre-based[4]

Full-day	6,926
Part-time	3,742
Total centre spaces	10,668
Family day care spaces	158
Total regulated spaces	10,826
Children with special needs in regulated child care (12 92)	140 (Approx.)
Subsidized children (3 92)	2,022

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (1992)

	Full-day	Part-time	Total
Non-profit	4,089	2,283	6,372
Commercial	2,837	1,459	4,296

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size: 60 recommended but not mandatory

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-17 mos	1:4	not specified
17 mos-5 yrs (full-day)	1:7	not specified
17 mos-5 yrs (part-day)	1:12	not specified
5-12 yrs	1:15	not specified

Staff qualifications

Centre director and 2/3 of the staff must have **either** a 1 or 2 year early childhood education certificate or diploma **or** 2 years experience, one course and a 35 hour workshop covering growth, development and curriculum. All staff must have first-aid knowledge.

Parent involvement

Parent meetings must be held at least every 3 months for full-day programs and every 6 months for part-time programs.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Initial inspections are conducted by Day Care Services. Eleven regional staff in regional offices who have generic caseloads are responsible for child care centre annual inspections. Licenses can be issued for up to 23 months at a time for part-time programs.

If a centre is in non-compliance with the *Act* or *Regulations*, a license with conditions is issued for a specified time period in which the centre must meet the legislative requirements. If the centre fails to do so, the *Act* authorizes the Minister to cancel the license and if the program continues to operate, it is open to prosecution for violation of the *Act*. The legislation allows for an appeal to the Minister if a license is suspended or cancelled.

4 - Number of spaces is not available on the basis of the age of the child.

Regulated family day care

Regulation
Family day care providers are supervised by licensed agencies.

Maximum capacity
Up to 6 children of varying ages, including the caregiver's own preschool children, or up to 8 school-age children, including the caregiver's own school-age children

Provider qualifications
Provider must be at least 18 years, not on the child abuse registry, and cleared of having a criminal record by the RCMP or local police. No early childhood training or experience is required.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
The family day care agency has responsibility for recruiting, screening, and selecting the caregivers, approving the homes, and on-going monitoring. Provincial staff conduct annual visits and evaluations of the agencies to check for adherence to provincial guidelines for day care homes.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Financial assistance for child care costs is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

There is a two-step eligibility process. Parents must be employed, seeking employment, attending school or a training program, receiving medical treatment or have a special or emergency child care need. If the parent meets one of these criteria, an income test is applied.

For the purposes of funding, the category "child care centres" includes:

- Registered centres
  Operated by non-profit boards of directors and eligible for government-subsidized spaces, salary enhancement grants, equipment grants, and training grants

- Private/non-profit centres
  Operated by non-profit boards of directors, not eligible for government-subsidized spaces but eligible for salary enhancement grants and training grants

- Private/for-profit centres
  Operated by owners or managers and not eligible either for subsidized spaces or salary enhancement grants

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point (estimated maximum)
1 parent, 1 child	$16,500	$24,240
2 parents, 2 children	18,120	33,600

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

Maximum subsidy by age of child (1992)

Infants to 17 mos	$21.00/day
Preschoolers	16.50/day
School-age	16.50/day

Programs can surcharge subsidized parents if fees are above the maximum subsidy rate.

The minimum user fee is $1.50 per day.

The provincial fee subsidy budget is not open-ended. When all the allocated funds have been spent, eligible parents go on a waiting list.

Only registered centres (non-profit centres operated by community-based organizations) and family day care agencies may enrol subsidized children. Other non-profit centres and commercial centres are not eligible to enrol subsidized children.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Capital grants
Start-up grants
One-time: $100/subsidized space, available to full-time, registered centres

Equipment grants
$130/year/subsidized centre space, available to full-time registered centres. It may be used for the purchase of any type of equipment but not for capital improvements such as building renovations.

Operating Grants
Not available

Salary enhancement grants
Available to non-profit (registered and non-registered) centres and agencies approved by the province to supervise family day care homes. The grant is $3.25/day/space up to the maximum spaces based on the number of families whose net income falls within maximum provincial subsidy eligibility guidelines.

Administrative grants
Available to agencies licensed to supervise family day care providers. The grant is either 10% of the approved per diem fee and based on the previous year's utilization of subsidized spaces or $1.65/day/space.

Child development centre grant
Annual grant provided to child development centres (part-day enrichment programs primarily enroling children from low-income families). Maximum grant available cannot exceed 50% of the centre's approved operating budget and is based on the percentage of families whose income falls within provincial subsidy guidelines.

Infant incentive grants
Non-profit, full-day centres which enrol infants receive a maximum of $21.00/day/infant.

Grants for children with disabilities
Up to $22/day/child with special needs. Intended to cover additional costs associated with integrating children with special needs. Eligibility is based on evidence of the child's disability and presentation of an individualized program plan. A few centres have a designated allotment of special needs spaces; other special needs-subsidized spaces are allocated on a case-by-case, as needed basis.

Other grants
Staff training grant
Available to staff working in all regulated centres to assist them in meeting minimum training requirements for early childhood education. Provides 50% of cost of course to maximum of $400 annually.

Most grants are dependent on the availability of funds except salary enhancement and training.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fee subsidies	$ 8,142,500
Equipment grants	250,000
Grants to family day care agencies	70,000
Child development centres	220,000
Salary enhancement grants	2,720,000
Special needs grants	18,100
Total	$11,420,600

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $70.76

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimated) $5,155,000

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 6.22
Teachers	7.64
Teacher directors	9.31
Administrative directors	12.53
Overall mean hourly wage	$ 7.95 (approximately $16,000/year).

Family day care rates

Maximum of $14.50/day/child

Fees (1992, average monthly)

Information not available

ADMINISTRATION

The Day Care Services Section of the Department of Community Services is responsible for the licensing and inspection of child care and preschool facilities, monitoring family day care agencies, administration of funding arrangements, program consultation for licensed programs and developing policy.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

Legislation allows municipalities to apply for a license to directly operate a child care program; however, none have done so.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no provincial government planning process for the overall development of child care services. Non-profit groups apply for a license, subsidy spaces and grants. Centres may be granted a license but not be able to access provincial funding, including allocation of subsidy spaces, start-up grants, equipment grants and special needs funding, although they may be eligible for salary enhancement grants and training grants.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN NOVA SCOTIA

1966 Advocacy Committee on Day Care Services announced by the Minister of Public Welfare.

1967 Enactment of *The Day Nurseries Act*.

1968 Formation of the Preschool Association of Nova Scotia.

1970 Founding of the Nova Scotia Day Care Advocacy Association and the Nova Scotia Child Care Council.

1972 Appointment of the Provincial Day Care Advisory Committee to deal with funding. The day care subsidy program was introduced.

1977 A Task Force on Day Care Financing was struck with a mandate to review the per diem rate. This resulted in yearly increments in the subsidy rate and an annual review of the parent fee formula.

1980 Enactment of the revised *Day Care Act and Regulations*.

1983 Task Force on Day Care was announced. Its recommendations resulted in the introduction of an annual equipment grant, additional subsidized child care spaces, special needs funding, and staff training standards along with staff training grants.

1987 Training specifications for staff working in child care came into effect.

1988 Provincial child care plan to triple spending for program expansion and enhancements subject to a federal-provincial cost-sharing agreement was developed.

1989 Child care spending postponed.

1990 Child care staff in 40 centres across the province staged a one-day walkout to protest poor wages.

The Minister announced a Round Table on Day Care including representatives from child care centres to conduct a comprehensive review of the child care services program.

1991 *Report of the Round Table* on Day Care containing 49 recommendations was released. These included establishing the Round Table as an on-going advisory group, the adoption of salary scales for staff, and the creation of 500 subsidized spaces per year over 5 years.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The *Report of the Round Table on Day Care in Nova Scotia* (April, 1991) recommended an increase of 500 licensed spaces for each of the next 5 years but this did not occur. The Minister of Community Services reconvened the government and parent members of the Round Table to implement the recommendations and to establish funding priorities.

In September 1992, $1 million for child care was announced including 100 additional subsidies and improvements in staff training grants. A new subsidy rate for infants was announced as well.

The Round Table on Day Care was reconstituted with a revised mandate to provide on-going advice to the Minister and an expanded composition to include parent and staff representatives.

An information system is to be developed in 1993/1994.

NEW BRUNSWICK

LEGISLATION

New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. *Family Services Act*. 1980.

New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. *Family Services Act Regulations*. 1983, as amended. 1992.

PROVINCIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

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Department of Health and Community Services
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Diane Lutes, Provincial Coordinator
Telephone: (506) 855-4187

CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated child care

Maximum number of children permitted 4

No more than 2 infants are allowed.

Figure includes the provider's own children under 12 years.

Regulated child care

Day care centres
Part-time or full-time care for less than 24 hours/day for 4 or more infants; 6 or more preschoolers; 10 or more children 6-12 years; or 7 or more children from birth to 12 years.

Community day care homes
Care in a private home for up to 6 children between 0-12 years including the caregiver's own children under 12 years, with no more than 2 children under 24 months.

School-age child care
Centre-based care outside school hours for school-age children up to 12 years.

New Brunswick's kindergartens (part of the school system) operate a full school day.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

No segregated child care programs exist in New Brunswick. A network of centres operates as part of the Integrated Day Care Program, targeting children between 3 and 5 years. (A separate program, Home Based Early Intervention, which trains parents to work with their children in their own home, is for younger children). Both of these programs, for children with developmental and/or physical handicaps or who are at environmental risk, are under the jurisdiction of the Early Childhood Services Unit of the Department of Health and Community Services. Centres providing integrated child care services are required to meet additional provincial program standards in order to be eligible to receive children and to access special needs funding. The Department of Health and Community Services establishes a child's eligibility to be served as a child with special needs and a centre's eligibility to provide service to such children. In 1992, the provincial government announced an initiative which would result in the eventual development of 400 spaces in the Integrated Day Care Program by the end of fiscal year 1994/1995.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There is one regulated child care centre on a native reserve in New Brunswick.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)		Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)	
0-2	28,445	0-2	16,249
3-5	28,915	3-5	16,958
6-12	72,055	6-12	37,579
Total 0-12	129,415	Total 0-12	70,786

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	700	nil	nil
5-14 yrs	1,335	nil	nil

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	477	718	536
Speech difficulty	473	745	532
Developmental handicap	125	355	390

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	12,510
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	8,585
Total	21,095

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
17 weeks

Parental leave
12 weeks for either parent (called child care leave in New Brunswick but comparable to parental leave in other provinces).

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - In New Brunswick, 3 reserve census subdivisions, with an estimated total population of 114, were either incompletely or not enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Data from these subdivisions are not included.

3 - Excludes reserves. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child could be counted in the use of technical aid category and also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1991, full and part-time)

Centre spaces	7,084
Family day care spaces	78
Total regulated spaces	7,162
Children with special needs in regulated child care (1992)	218
Subsidized children (Monthly average 4/92-12/92)	782

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (1992)

Non-profit spaces	3,684
Commercial spaces	2,723

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size: 60 spaces

New child care programs can be licensed for a maximum of 60 spaces but there are a few older centres that are larger.

Maximum staff child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
less than 2 yrs	1:3	9
2-3 yrs	1:5	10
3-4 yrs	1:7	14
4-5 yrs	1:10	20
5-6 yrs	1:12	24
6-12 yrs	1:15	30

Staff qualifications

Staff must be at least 16 years old but those under 19 years must be supervised by a primary staff member who must be at least 19 years of age. All staff must have first-aid training. No early childhood education training or experience is required.

Parent involvement

Non-profit centres are required to have a board of directors whose members include at least 25% parents of enroled children. All centres must hold at least one parent information meeting per year.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Nine regional coordinators are responsible for monitoring compliance with the regulations. Child care centres receive a full-day inspection and a minimum of 3 unannounced visits per year.

If a centre is in non-compliance, a provisional license may be issued for 6 months. During this period the program is expected to rectify the non-compliance. The regulations provide the authority to suspend or cancel a license if the program is deemed to pose a danger to children. There is no formal appeal mechanism if a license is suspended or cancelled.

Regulated family day care

Regulation

Individually licensed

Maximum capacity

Infants	3
2-5 yrs	5
6 yrs and over	9
Combination of ages	6

The capacity limitations include the provider's own children under 12 years.

Provider qualifications

Providers must be at least 19 years olds and have first-aid training. No early childhood education training or experience is required.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

The 9 regional coordinators are responsible for licensing and monitoring community day care homes and for the monitoring of the home-based Early Intervention Services Program. Community day care home providers are issued an initial Certificate of Approval and must make an annual Request for Renewal. The regional coordinators spot-check community day care homes to ensure compliance with the regulations.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

Eligibility is determined through a needs test which is administered by the Department of Income Assistance.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point (estimated maximum)
1 parent, 1 child	$11,664	$18,012
2 parents, 2 children	13,464	26,172

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

Maximum subsidy by age of child (1992)

0-2 yrs	$14/day
2-6 yrs	12/day
6-12 yrs	7/day

The budget of the fee subsidy program has an upper limit; however, to date, there has been sufficient money to provide subsidies for all eligible families.

There is no minimum user fee.

Programs may surcharge parents even if the full fee for their program is above the maximum subsidy rates.

Subsidies are payable to any regulated commercial or non-profit child care centre or community day care home.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Start-up grants
Not available

Capital grants
Not available

Operating grants
$13.55 per approved child care space/year based on the program's annual months of operation

Infant incentive grant
Not available

Special needs grant
Centres providing an integrated service for an eligible child receive a grant through the Integrated Day Care Program to assist with the additional costs associated with providing care for the child. The amount is determined on the specific needs. The average is $3,000/space/year.

Professional development grants
$75/staff/year

Other grants
Grants for special projects may be available. In 1992/1993, $25,000 was available for a workplace child care initiative.

All licensed non-profit and commercial child care centres are eligible for all grants.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care subsidy program	$2,500,000
Operating grants	945,652
Special needs grants	81,600
Professional development grant	46,800
Special projects	72,100
Total	$3,646,152

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $28.17
Estimate based on total provincial expenditures)

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimated) $1,015,000

30

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs	
Assistant teachers	$6.03
Teachers	6.20
Teacher directors	7.50
Administrative directors	9.53
Overall mean hourly wage	$6.50 (approximately $13,000/year)

Family day care rates	
Infant	$17/day
Preschool	15/day
School-age	8/day

Fees (1991/1992, average monthly)

Child care centres and community day care homes	
Infants	$382
Preschool	335
School-age	160

ADMINISTRATION

The Office for Childhood Services, Department of Health and Community Services is responsible for coordinating early intervention, Head Start and child care programs within the Department of Health and Community Services. The Department of Income Assistance administers the subsidy program.

Approval and monitoring of child care programs is administered through 6 regional offices of the Department of Health and Community Services.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

None

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

New child care services which are eligible for an initial Certificate of Approval may commence operation and apply for grants as the provincial child care budget permits. The province hopes to develop a strategic child care plan in 1993 which will guide future child care development.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN NEW BRUNSWICK

1970s Child care centres were established under federal Local Initiative Project grants.

1974 Enactment of The *Day Care Act* which included 40 staffing, health and safety, and administration regulations. It also provided for a fee subsidy program for eligible low-income families. The Act authorized the Department of Social Services to license child care centres and administer fee subsidies.

1980 The *Family Service Act* included child care services, viewing them as a child development service.

1982 One year training program for child care workers established at Campellton.

1983 *Day Care Regulation 83-85* was enacted and the *Day Care Facilities Standards* were developed.

1985 The *Day Care Facilities Standards* were implemented.

1989 Appointment of the Minister of State for Childhood Services and the establishment of the Office for Childhood Services.

1991 Release of *Playing for keeps: Improving our children's quality of life*, a policy framework for children's services in New Brunswick.

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RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Kindergarten programs were introduced as part of the public school system in 1991. Kindergarten programs operating within child care centres are no longer covered by the child care legislation or the Office for Childhood Services. They are considered to be similar to private schools.

In September 1992, the provincial government announced the Early Childhood Initiatives, designed to provide targeted services to foster the healthy growth and development of priority children and their families and to enhance family self-sufficiency. Priority children are defined as those with a physical and/or developmental handicap and children at environmental risk. The program includes Home-Based Early Intervention Services Program and the Integrated Day Care Services Program for children aged 3 to 5 years.

In 1993, the provincial government established a working group on child care to study the issues of staff training, wage enhancement, and standards. It is anticipated that there will be changes to the child care regulations and standards.

QUÉBEC

LEGISLATION

Québec. Assemblée Nationale. *An Act Respecting Child Day Care*. R.S.Q., chapter S - 4.1, as amended October, 1992.

Québec. Assemblée Nationale. *Regulation Respecting Child Day Care Centres*, S - 4.1, R.2., as amended October, 1992

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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated child care

Maximum number of children permitted 6

Figure excludes the caregiver's own children.

Regulated child care

Garderies (child care centres)
Group care for less than 24 hours a day for 7 to 60 children from birth to the end of primary school.

Milieu familial (family day care)
Care for up to 6 children, including the provider's own children, from birth to the end of primary school in a private home supervised by a licensed agency. If the provider is assisted by another adult, care may be offered for up to 9 children, including the providers own children.

Other child care
Haltes garderies (stop-over centres) [1]
Care for at least 7 children between birth and the end of primary school on a casual, drop-in basis for up to 24 consecutive hours.

Jardin d'enfant (nursery schools) [1]
Programs for a minimum of 7 children 2-5 years, on a regular basis for up to 7 hours/day. Children are in stable groups in which activities are carried on over a fixed period.

Milieu scolaire (school-age child care)
Programs provided by a school board for children attending kindergarten or elementary grades. These services do not require a permit (or license) from l'Office. Funds for school-age programs are granted by government to l'Office which delegates responsibility for administration to the Ministry of Education.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Quebec does not have any segregated child care programs for children with disabilities. While there is no specific policy regarding integration of children with special needs, it is encouraged through the availability of grants to programs to assist with the additional costs associated with meeting the child's needs.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There are regulated child care centres located in Kuujjuaq, Hasteuiatsh and Mastissini and a licensed family day care agency in Chisasibi. In addition, there are child care projects under way in Chisasibi, Kuujjuaq and Restigouche.

1 - It is anticipated that haltes garderies and jardins d'enfants will be licensed by l'Office when the new regulations for these services are developed and implemented.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT [2]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)		Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)	
0-2	277,220	0-2	163,844
3-5	225,070	3-5	151,307
6-12	655,285	6-12	305,214
Total 0-12	1,157,575	Total 0-12	620,365

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [3]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	5,005	950	1,180
5-14 yrs	8,360	1,530	1,800

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [4]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	5688	6140	6636
Speech difficulty	3819	3997	5632
Developmental handicap	too small to be estimated	3435	4655

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	137,610
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	74,785
Total	212,395

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
18 weeks

Parental leave
34 weeks for each parent, available to both natural and adoptive parents

Birth or adoption day leave
5 days, 2 of which may be paid

Family responsibility leave
5 days unpaid per year to fulfil obligations relating to the care, health, or education of a minor child where the parent's presence is required due to unforeseeable circumstances

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

2 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

3 - In Québec, one reserve census subdivision was incompletely enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Data from this subdivision are not reported.

4 - Excludes reserves. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of child care spaces regulated through l'Office (1992) (child care centres, family day care)

Centre spaces

Infants	3,817
Toddlers/Preschoolers	42,538
Total	46,355
Family day care	8,203
Total number of spaces regulated through l'Office	54,558

Number of school-age child care spaces (programs operated by school boards)

	full-time	part-time[5]
4yr old	260	64
5yr old	4,212	2,086
6+ yr old	19,358	16,792
Total full-time		23,830

Children with special needs in regulated child care	842
Subsidized children (7/92)	41,423

Sponsorship of centre spaces (1992)

Non-profit	31,643
Municipal	60
Commercial	12,454
School board (school-age)	23,830

Regulated child care programs may be sponsored by a cooperative, a non-profit corporation with a board of directors composed of at least 51% parent-users who are not also staff members, a municipal corporation, an individual owner or a company. One individual or corporation is allowed only one permit.

5 - These figures represent children (not spaces) who attend part-time or sporadically and are not counted in the total

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size 60 spaces

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-18 mos	1:5	15
18 mos-5 yrs	1:8	30
6-12 yrs	1:15	30

Staff qualifications

One third of staff must have a college or university degree in early childhood education (ECE) **or** 3 years of experience plus a college attestation degree or certificate in ECE.

Parent involvement

All child care services must have a board of directors with 51% parent members or a five-member parent advisory committee. The parent committee must be consulted on issues of service delivery.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

L'Office des services de garde à l'enfance issues permits (licenses) to child care centres and family day care agencies for up to a 2 year period. Haltes garderies (stop-over centres) and nursery schools are not currently licensed but it is anticipated that they will be when the new regulations covering these services are developed and implemented. Licenses are not required for school child care services for elementary school children provided on school premises (these are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education). However, these programs must notify l'Office of their operation and keep attendance records.

L'Office inspectors may visit any licensed operation to monitor its compliance with regulations. There is no regulatory requirement for the frequency of visits by inspectors.

If a centre is found to be in non-compliance with legislative requirements, but there is no immediate danger to the health or well-being of the children, l'Office informs the centre's board, in writing, that the program is in non-compliance with a specific regulation(s) and requests rectification. A follow-up check is done by an inspector when sufficient time is deemed to have occurred. Repeated instances of

non-compliance which do not pose an immediate threat may result in a court hearing for the operator. Québec does not issue conditional or provisional licenses. In the situation of a non-compliance which poses an immediate threat to the children, the legislation grants the inspector the authority to immediately close the program. The operator may appeal the loss of license (or the refusal by l'Office to renew a license) to a tribunal set up by l'Office to hear the case and may be represented by a lawyer. If not satisfied with the tribunal's ruling, the operator may appeal a decision to the Commission des affaires sociales. Its decision is binding.

Regulated family day care

Regulation
Family day care providers are supervised by licensed agencies.

Maximum capacity
Up to 6 children (including the provider's children under 12 years); no more than 2 children may be under 18 months. If the provider is assisted by another adult, they may care for 9 children, including the provider's children, with no more than 4 children under 18 months.

The maximum capacity for a family day care agency is 150 spaces and permits are linked to a specific geographic territory.

Provider qualifications
No training requirements for agency staff or providers. Agencies may require provider training.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Family day care agency staff are required to do on-site visits. L'Office monitors agency records of home visits and activity reports. The frequency of home visits and agency responsibility for provider supervision are expected to be included in regulations to be adopted in late 1993.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

To be eligible for a full-time fee subsidy, a parent must be employed, enrolled in job training or an educational program, on unemployment insurance seeking work or be referred by a CLSC. A part-time fee subsidy is available to pay for child care for income-eligible children regardless of their parents' labour force participation.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$12,000	$29,000
2 parents, 2 preschool children in child care	15,000	50,000

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is considerable province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

Maximum subsidy

Based on the provincial funding plan, l'Office determines whether a centre will be funded. If a centre is funded, all eligible children in attendance may be subsidized. [6]

Subsidies are based on the actual child care fee rather than a flat rate. The maximum subsidy is 40% of the actual fee plus a basic amount of $5.46/child/day. Maximum subsidy/child is $14.25/day.

Minimum user fee is $1/day/family. If a child is referred by a social service agency, additional assistance is available through a grant from the Program for Support to Disadvantaged Families for Child Day Care.

Child care centres and home day care agencies may surcharge subsidized parents more than the maximum daily subsidy.

All eligible children may be subsidized in funded non-profit and commercial child care services, family day care homes supervised by a licensed agency, and school-age programs. Subsidies are not available in nursery schools and stop-over centres.

6 - In Quebec, the number of places for which financial assistance or grants may be obtained from l'Office is allocated on an annual basis. A program may be licensed to operate but not be allocated funded spaces and therefore not be eligible for any grants from l'Office or to receive parent fee subsidization.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Development and start-up grants
New non-profit centres with a parent majority board of directors receive a $6,265 project management grant for development costs. New non-profit family day care agencies are eligible for a $6,265 start-up grant. This is an entitlement if the centre has been allocated spaces for funding (see footnote 6).

Non-profit centres with a parent majority board of directors, school boards, and municipalities are eligible for a start-up grant of 50% of their start-up costs (maximum of $142,000) for owned premises and $84,580 for rented premises. Start-up grants are entitlements if the centre has been allocated spaces for funding (see footnote 6).

Commercial programs are not eligible for either development or start-up grants.

Relocation grants
Fifty percent of actual cost (to $119,110) for centres with their own premises and up to $61,715 for centres renting premises to assist in moving costs. This grant is an entitlement if the centre is non-profit and meets the criteria for funding. The grant can only be used for capital improvements if the centre is in the process of buying the premises.

Capital grants
Grants to existing programs to assist with major capital improvements (e.g. renovations) are not available except for the relocation grant noted above.

Operating grants
Non-profit centres with parent majority boards of directors and centres whose license is held by a municipality or school board (for programs other than school-age child care) receive an annual basic grant of $34,202 plus funds equivalent to 30% of the centre's revenue, including parent contributions, fee subsidies, and 50% of cash donations (revenue includes donated rental space). To be counted in determining eligibility, donations must make it possible to reduce fees by a least $1.00/day/space. These operating grants are an entitlement if the centre has been allocated spaces for funding (see footnote 6).

Family day care agencies with 50 or more spaces receive an annual basic grant of $22,800; agencies with less than 50 spaces receive $11,400 per year plus $312 annually for each child enrolled in a regulated family day care home and $1,253 annually per provider depending on the actual number of home day care services coordinated by the agency to a maximum of providers set at 25% of total number of licensed spaces. These grants are an entitlement if the agency has been allocated spaces for funding (see footnote 6).

Infant incentive grant
Flat rate of $6.59/child/day. All licensed programs (including commercial programs and non-profit centres whose boards are not composed of a majority of parents) are eligible to receive this grant if they have been allocated spaces for funding (see footnote 6).

Special needs grant
The following grants are available from l'Office to all licensed programs (including commercial) to assist in the integration of children with special needs:

- $18.31/child with a special need/day
- one-time grant up to $329 for an individual case study
- up to $1,567 for special equipment

These grants are an entitlement if the program has been allocated spaces for funding (see footnote 6).

School-age child care services receive a flat rate of $700 for the first child, $600 for the second child, and $500 for each additional child. This funding comes from the Department of Education.

Other grants
Staff training grants
A grant to an annual maximum of $2,190 to centres and $820 to family day care agencies for training, recruiting and upgrading staff. All licensed programs (including commercial and non-profit centres whose boards are not composed of a majority of parents) are eligible.

Group benefit grants
All licensed centres are eligible for grants to purchase group insurance, including maternity leave, extended health and dental benefits, from a designated insurance company. The annual maximum of the grant is an amount equivalent to 1.22% for extended health and dental benefits and 1.68% of the total insurable payroll for maternity leave.

Child care organizations
Annual grants ranging from $6,555 to $29,505 are available to non-profit organizations or associations which promote the development and maintenance of quality child care through information, education, and prevention and which have a minimum of 10 members.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fee subsidy program	$ 61,495,900
Operating grants	77,769,909
Other	1,459,691
Total	$140,725,500

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $121.57
(estimate based on total provincial expenditures)

Federal funding: Entitlements to child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimated) $46,020,000

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 8.69
Teachers	10.25
Teacher directors	9.93
Administrative directors	13.41
Overall mean hourly wage	$ 9.30 (approximately $18,500/year)

Family day care rates

$14.88/day/child

Fees (1992, average monthly)

Child care centres	
Infant	$407.00
Toddler/preschooler	328.00
School-age	200.00
Family day care	$14.88/day

ADMINISTRATION

L'Office des services de garde à l'enfance is a semi-autonomous body appointed by the provincial government. Fifty-one percent of its voting membership must be parents who are child care users. L'Office is responsible for setting standards and regulations, administration of the legislation, administration of grants, and coordination of the child care system across the province.

Le ministre de l'Education is responsible for school-age child care services provided by a school board for children attending kindergarten or elementary school.

L'Office and the ministre de l'Education have reciprocal obligations related to child care for school-aged children. Most notable are exchanging information and making grants available.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

Municipalities may operate child care facilities. Two municipalities do so, and others provide space, land and/or services to parent-operated child care centres.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Québec uses a province-wide planning process which sets priorities by region. *The Regulation respecting the annual fixing and allotment for new centres and agencies of the number of places for which an exemption, financial assistance or grants may be obtained* (1992) sets the criteria for the development of new services that are eligible for funding.

The Québec government has a policy which favours the development of child care services that are controlled by user-parents. L'Office issues licenses (permits) to new child care services as the requirements of the *Act* and *Regulations* are met. However, if these services are not accepted for funding through the *Regulation* noted above, they are not eligible for any grants, not even parent fee subsidization.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN QUÉBEC

1887 Montreal Day Nursery, an anglophone child care centre, established by charitable organizations

1942 Québec signed the Dominion-Provincial War Time Agreement with the federal government. This enabled cost-sharing for child care centres attended by children whose mothers were employed in industries essential to the war effort. Six centres were established in Montreal.

1945 Government financing for child care centres ended and centres closed

1950s Growth of private child care centres

1969 The provincial government began to license existing child care centres and financed selected child care centres located in low-income districts of Montreal.

1972 A system of tax credits for mothers using child care was established.

1974 The provincial government adopted the *Bacon Plan*, a policy paper on child care issues which recognized the existing network of child care centres and recommended financial aid to low income parents.

1979 *An Act Respecting Child Day Care* created l'Office des services de garde à l'enfance to coordinate and promote development of child care services. Operating grants were introduced.

1980 L'Office took on full responsibility for regulated child care services.

1983 *Regulations* for the *Act* were adopted.

1988 L'office issued a policy statement on child care services which announced a five-year expansion plan to double the number of licensed child care spaces by 1994. The paper also identified target programs, such as infant child care and workplace child care and extended grants to commercial..

1989 The child care community organized a one day walkout in protest against some aspects of the 1988 policy statement.

The government announced enhanced parent fee subsidies, the provision of assistance for child care training and staff development, and increased assistance to facilitate the integration of children with handicaps.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In 1992, a regulation was adopted which fixes the number of spaces eligible for funding on an annual basis. It is tied to the 5-year expansion plan and targets specific types of services.

Unionized child care staff took part in a one-day walkout protesting poor wages.

New regulations were adopted relating to parent fee subsidies in 1993.

Summer child care programs which are not operated as regulated centres or regulated family day care have recently become eligible to receive funding from l'Office.

Late in 1993, Concertaction organized a province-wide demonstration. The demands were for a freeze on parent fees and $1.5 million for wage enhancement for the non-profit sector in the short term.

ONTARIO

LEGISLATION

Ontario. Legislative Assembly. *The Day Nurseries Act*. Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1990.

Ontario. Legislative Assembly. *Ontario Regulation 262*, 1990.

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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated child care

Maximum number of children permitted 5

Figure excludes the caregiver's own children.

Regulated child care

Day nurseries (child care centres, nursery schools)
Group care for less than 24 hours/day for 5 or more unrelated children under 12 years and under 18 years for children with a developmental handicap.

Supervised private home day care (now commonly referred to as home child care)
Care for up to 5 children from 0-12 years (including the provider's own children under 6 years) in a private home that is supervised by a licensed agency. Not more than 2 of the children may be under 2 years, and not more than 3 children may be under 3 years.

Other
Family resource centres
Provide support services to parents and to regulated and unregulated caregivers in their caregiving role. The range of services can include: drop-in programs, resource lending libraries, playgroups, training opportunities, and educational workshops.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Ministry's policy is integration to the maximum extent possible. *The Day Nurseries Act* authorizes segregated day nurseries to serve handicapped children 2-18 years and designated integrated day nurseries to integrate handicapped children age 2-10 years. In practice, there are few segregated programs remaining. Designated integrated programs are required to provide specialized programming and to employ a resource staff person (resource teacher) for every 4 handicapped children.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

In March, 1992, there were 41 licensed child care centres with a capacity of 1,396 children on First Nations' land administered by the relevant Band Council. *The Day Nurseries Act* treats Indian Bands in a manner analogous to municipalities for the purpose of child care funding and administration. Expenses are cost-shared with the federal government through the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)		Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)	
0-2	432,350	0-2	266,589
3-5	416,275	3-5	271,632
6-12	964,195	6-12	556,487
Total 0-12	1,812,820	Total 0-12	1,094,708

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	13,610	1,160	190
5-14 yrs	22,300	3,275	nil

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	6321	5737	11315
Speech difficulty	9499	14656	5436
Developmental handicap	3400	7410	2285

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	207,525
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	143,145
Total	350,670

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
17 weeks

Parental leave
18 weeks for each parent. Parental leave is available to both natural and adoptive parents.

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - In Ontario, 30 reserve and settlement census subdivisions, with an estimated total population of 7,651, were either incompletely or not enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Data from these subdivisions are not included. Across Canada as a whole, approximately 36% of those who identified as North American Indian lived on reserves or settlements.

3 - Excludes reserves. The figures related to developmental handicap among children age 0-4 years and 10-14 years should be treated with caution. The standard deviation of the estimated developmental handicap figures is between 16.8% and 33.3%. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

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SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1992)

Centre-based (child enrolment)

Infants	3,580
Toddlers	11,055
Preschool	90,179
School-age	24,938
Total children enroled	129,752

Information is not available about full and part-time spaces or licensed capacity of centres.

Family day care (1993)

Children served (estimated)	15,793
Number of agencies	114
Number of regulated providers (estimated)	5,607

Children with special needs in regulated child care

Information not available

Subsidized children (1992)

Information not available
(estimated to be approximately 50,000)

Resource centres (1993)

200 (approximately)

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (1992)

Non-profit	87,685
Municipal	9,500 (approximately)
Commercial	30,644

It should be noted that the total spaces provided here do not coincide with total spaces provided above. The figures come from different sources and are the best available.

Sponsorship of family day care agencies (1993)

Non-profit	82
Municipal	20
Commercial	8

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size: Not specified

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-18 mos	1:3	10
18 mos-2½ yrs	1:5	15
2½-5 yrs	1:8	16
5-6 yrs	1:12	24
6-10 yrs	1:15	30

Staff qualifications
Centre supervisors must have a 2 year diploma in early childhood education or the equivalent and at least 2 years' experience working in a day nursery with children who are of the same age and developmental level as the children in the day nursery where the supervisor is employed. A Ministry Program Advisor has the authority to waive the educational requirements for directors and other staff.

One staff person with each group of children must have a 2 year early childhood education diploma or equivalent.

A resource teacher must hold a diploma in early childhood education or academic equivalent and have completed a post-secondary school program that relates to the needs of handicapped children. If working with multiply-handicapped children, the resource teacher must also have a current standard certificate in first aid. There are no training or experience requirements for staff other than resource teachers who are working with children who have special needs.

Parent involvement
Each regulated centre and family day care agency must have a written statement regarding parent involvement. The type of parental involvement is not specified.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Ministry Program Advisors based in Area Offices license, monitor and enforce the *Day Nurseries Act* and its *Regulations*. The annual license renewal process includes an inspection of the child care facility to ensure compliance with the regulatory standards. Unannounced drop-in visits are also be conducted.

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Non-compliance with the legislation which does not pose an immediate threat to the children's well-being may result in a provisional license with a time-frame in which the operator is required to correct the non-compliance. Repeated non-compliance of a serious nature or non-compliance which poses a likely danger to the children may result in the license being revoked. However, the Director of Child Care must give notice of intent to close the centre to the operator who has the right to appeal to the Child and Family Services Review Board. The legislation provides the authority for immediate closure in the situation of immediate danger to the children's well-being.

Regulated family day care

Regulation
The province licenses private home day care agencies which then enter into agreements with providers to provide child care.

Maximum capacity
Up to 5 children under 12 years (including the provider's own children). No more than 2 children may be under the 2 years, or 3 under 3 years.

Provider qualifications
There are no provider qualifications specified in provincial regulations. In practice, the Ministry's area offices often require family day care providers to be older than 18 years, and, if working with handicapped children, to hold a standard first-aid certificate. Many agencies provide training for providers.

Providers are supervised by a home visitor who is required to have completed a post-secondary program in child development and family studies, and to have at least 2 years experience working with children who are the same age and developmental levels as the children cared for by the agency where the person is employed.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
The family day care agency is required to conduct quarterly in-home supervisory visits and is responsible for ensuring that legislated requirements are met.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Financial assistance for child care costs are paid directly to child care service providers on behalf of eligible parents. In Ontario, municipalities, approved corporations [4] and Native Bands administer the fee subsidy program and contribute 20% of the cost of subsidization.

Eligibility is determined by a needs test with income being only one of a number of items considered. Each municipality can determine the rates within the test, a situation which creates considerable variation across the province. There are no province-wide maximum income levels for full and partial fee subsidies.

The province does not set a maximum subsidy level per child. The maximum subsidy/child/day varies across the province because of the discretion that is exercised by municipalities.

There is no provincial minimum user fee, but a minimum fee is often assigned by individual municipalities and varies among them.

The provincial government permits subsidization up to the full cost of the program. However, in practice, municipalities tend to set maximum subsidy rates.

Municipalities may allocate a specified number of subsidized spaces to particular programs or may allow them to float.

There is a province-wide limit on the number of subsidized spaces available and lengthy waiting lists of eligible parents exist in some communities. Some communities do not maintain waiting lists.

Fee subsidies for children with special needs are determined on the basis of 87% contribution by the provincial government and 13% contribution from another source such as parent fee or the local municipality. The province does not require that the parent be needs or income tested for eligibility but some municipalities have imposed a needs test.

4 - A non-profit corporation which operates a child care program and is authorized to administer a fee subsidy program in a community where the municipality does not do so.

Average income levels of families receiving fee subsidy (1993)

1 parent	$16,953.00 (range $12,816-20,616)
2 parents	26,006.52 (range $17,820-32,460)

There are no data on province-wide income levels for subsidy eligibility. Metropolitan Toronto data describing average incomes of families receiving subsidy are provided. Ranges are inter-quartile (mid 50%).

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Program Development Fund
Start-up and minor capital for non-profit child care programs, community needs assessments, and for community development, on-going funding to child care resource centres, public education projects, pilot projects and research projects may be available. Expenditures through the Program Development Fund are limited by the total provincial allocation. Commercial programs are not eligible.

Capital funds
Child care facilities in new schools
The Ministry of Education and Training funds construction of child care centres at all new and replacement schools that offer Primary and Junior division programs, and where specifically requested by the school board at new or replacement high schools. Since 1988, 300 school-based centres have been allocated funds, although not all have been build yet.

JobsOntario Capital
Where there is a requirement for new child care to serve JobsOntario training participants, capital funds have been allocated, at 100%. Total over 2 years is 2500 spaces.

Ministry of Community and Social Services Capital
There may be capital funding as part of the child care Ministry's Capital Work Plan. Commitments are fully subscribed to the allocated dollars in 1993 - 1994.

Conversion Capital
As part of a program to convert child care centres to non-profit auspice, capital funds may be available to purchase the assets or shares of commercial child care centres after the tangible and intangible assets have been valued by an independent business valuation process.

Operating Grants
Between 1987 and 1992, the Direct Operating Grant (DOG) was available to all non-profit centres and to those commercial centres licensed before December, 1987. The first priority for use of Direct Operating Grant funds was staff wages and benefits. The amount of the grant was determined by a formula which combined hours of care provided and number of children in the program. It was approximately $3,500 per staff person. In 1992, this grant was amalgamated with the Provider Enhancement Grant and the Child Care Wage Enhancement to form the Wage Subsidy. See following item.

Wage Subsidy Program
Eligibility for the Wage Subsidy is determined by the eligibility criteria of the former Direct Operating Grant (DOG), Wage Enhancement Grant (WEG) and Provider Enhancement Grant (PEG). Therefore, if a program was receiving any of the 3 previous grants, it automatically became eligible for Wage Subsidy. Non-profit programs licensed before April, 1992 are eligible for the part of Wage Subsidy equivalent to what would have been received under the Direct Operating Grant and may also be eligible for additional funds if they had been receiving the Child Care Wage Enhancement (paid to all non-profit programs except those operated by municipalities or community colleges) or the Provider Enhancement Grant (paid to all non-profit family day care agencies). Wage subsidies provide approximately $5,000 per full-time employed staff person. Effective April, 1992, only new programs and expansions that are part of an Area Office's plan are eligible for Wage Subsidy funding. Commercial programs licensed after December, 1987 are not eligible for any part of Wage Subsidy.

Infant incentive grants
Not available

Special needs grants
100% funding may assist (if provincial funds are available) programs with the additional costs of caring for a child with special needs, for example, the cost of a resource teacher.

Special needs grants are available both to non-profit and commercial services.

The Conversion Project
In 1992, the government allocated $75 million over 5 years to encourage and assist commercial programs with conversion to non-profit status. This amount includes Conversion Capital.

Other funding
The Flexible Services Development Project focused on development of services for under-served groups: rural and geographically isolated families; families requiring services outside usual child care hours; families faced with short-term emergencies; and families with children experiencing minor, short-term illnesses. An identified goal of this project was to direct policy development. In 1993, there were 4 unlicensed programs receiving funding through this project.

Annual funding is granted to the Childcare Resource and Research Unit at the University of Toronto and the Association for Early Childhood Educators, Ontario.

Some funds may be available to other provincial groups for special projects.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fee subsidy program	$272,300,000
Direct Operating Grant	76,200,000
Wage Enhancement Grant	18,000,000
Major capital	9,139,729
Aboriginal capital initiative	1,500,000
Program Development Fund	
Start-up, etc.	12,300,000
Family Resource Centres	19,000,000
Other	11,700,000
Total	$420,139,729

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $231.76
(estimate based on total provincial expenditures)

Municipal cost-sharing (in addition to provincial expenditures, 1992) $64,500,000

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1992)

The Ontario government estimates that the federal government contribution to provincial expenditures on child care under the Canada Assistance Plan in 1992/93 should be $188,416,700. However, Ontario is one of the 3 provinces (the others are Alberta and British Columbia) which had a ceiling of 5% imposed on expenditure growth under the Canada Assistance Plan by the federal government's March, 1990 budget. Therefore, the actual amount contributed specifically for child care cannot be identified but will be considerably less than the above estimate.

In addition, the federal government is expected to contribute $4,609,500 towards child care expenditures for 1992/93 under the Indian Welfare Services Program.

Salaries

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs[5] (1991)

Assistant teachers	$ 8.84
Teachers	11.51
Teacher directors	12.49
Administrative directors	14.78
Overall mean hourly wage	$11.38 (approximately $22,000/year).

Family day care rates (1993)

Range of $12.10 to $23.69/day/child with a median[6] of $18.30 calculated based on a child 3 years old without special needs in full-time care for 9 hours. The average enrolment in a home is 3 children.

5 The above may be underestimates due to under-reporting of the Direct Operating Grant by some staff (*Caring for a Living*, Canadian Child Care Federation/Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association, 1992).

6 This information and that on fees comes from a survey of 110 of the 114 agencies in the province (*Home child care programs cost: Technical Report*, by Nancy M. Draper Consultants, 1993). The median is the mid-point, 50% of the responses fall below it and 50% fall above it.

Fees (1993, average yearly)

Centres

Information is not available about provincial average fees. There is considerable variation in fees across the province. According to a survey of a sample of licensed non-profit programs conducted in 1993, the annual fee ranges in various localities are as follows:

	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs
Metro Toronto	$11,295 - 12,540	$ 6,526- 8,032
Central Ontario	$ 9,538 - 10,291	$ 5,773- 7,630
Ottawa	$12,045 - 13,303	$ 7,279- 9,036
Eastern Ontario	$ 6,777 - 9,036	$ 6,024- 7,279
Western Ontario	$ 6,526 - 9,538	$ 5,522- 7,275
Northern Ontario	$ 6,026 - 9,036	$ 6,773- 7,530

Family day care (1993, daily range per child)

Range of $14.00 to $30.00/child/day (median - $23/child/day) based on a child 3 years without special needs.

ADMINISTRATION

The Ministry of Community and Social Services is responsible for developing policy and legislation, coordinating planning, licensing programs, ensuring compliance with the regulations, administering operating grants and some subsidies and providing ongoing support.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services is a decentralized ministry. Licensing and monitoring of programs, planning and development of the local child care system, is the responsibility of 13 Area Offices. The Child Care Branch is responsible for policy and legislative development.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

Municipalities have 2 roles in child care in Ontario. *The Day Nurseries Act* enables municipalities and Indian Bands to directly operate child care centres and family day care agencies. Municipalities and Indian Bands also administer and pay 20% of the child care fee subsidy for eligible families in their jurisdiction, and exercise discretion over how the subsidy system operates.

In areas of the province where a municipality does not choose to participate in subsidized child care, it is possible for a non-profit child care agency to form an approved corporation and receive 80% funding directly from the provincial government.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The provincial government has identified 4 broad principles to guide its planning process: quality, affordability, accessibility, and sound management.

Ministry Area Offices are responsible for the development and implementation of local community plans consistent with the *Ontario Child Care Management Framework* released in 1992. Area Offices have established Area Planning Guidelines to direct and support community efforts. Applications for new programs or amendments to existing programs are considered within the context of the *Framework* document and the Area Office guidelines and priorities. Funding and service development are specifically tied to planning with an emphasis on supporting the stability of the system and on sound management.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN ONTARIO

1881 Establishment of The Creche in Toronto (now Victoria Day Care Services).

1926 Establishment of the University of Toronto's Institute of Child Study and its laboratory school, St. George's Nursery, to train nursery school teachers.

1942 Ontario was 1 of 2 provinces to sign the Dominion-Provincial War Time Agreement with the federal government enabling 50% cost-sharing for nurseries for children mothers were employed in essential war industries. The Day Nurseries Branch was established to administer funding and support the development of new nurseries.

1945 28 day nurseries in Ontario service 900 preschool children and 44 "school units" served approximately 2,500 children. At the end of the War, federal funding was withdrawn and the province threatened to close all centres.

1946 The Day Nursery and Day Care Parents' Association in Toronto successfully lobbied to keep the day nurseries open.

The Day Nurseries Act was passed, providing provincial funds to cover 50% of net operating costs of child care programs and a system of licensing and regular inspection for centres.

1950 The Nursery Education Association of Ontario (now the Association of Early Childhood Educators, Ontario) was established.

1966 The introduction of the federal Canada Assistance Plan resulted in the introduction of fee subsidies in Ontario for low-income families.

1974 Ontario's first major policy statement on child care said it was a welfare service for those in social/financial need.

The Day Care Reform Action Alliance successfully fought the "Birch Proposals", the provincial government's proposed reduction in staff:child ratios and other standards to reduce costs.

1980 The Ontario Coalition for Better Day Care (later Child Care) formed to advocate for public funding for universally accessible, high quality, non-profit child care.

1987 New government policy promised a "comprehensive policy that recognizes child care as a basic public service, not a welfare service." A 3 year plan to provide additional funds to expand non-profit child care programs was announced.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In 1991, the provincial government made 2 announcements that reflected its intention to establish growth in the non-profit sector: a Wage Enhancement Grant for workers in non-profit care as a "down payment" on pay equity, and a strategy to encourage commercial programs to convert to non-profit status.

In 1992, the government released *Setting the stage: Child care reform in Ontario*, which stated 4 basic principles as the basis for child care reform: quality, affordability, accessibility, and sound management. The consultation paper promised dramatic reform of child care in Ontario with the goal of making high quality child care accessible to every family.

In 1992, the government released the *Ontario Child Care Management Framework* establishing a context for the development of new programs and changes to existing programs.

In 1993, as part of the JobsOntario Training Fund, 8,200 fully-funded (100%) child care subsidies were released to help stabilize existing services and remove barriers to employment for unemployed parents.

The province is committed to child care reform, and development of new legislation by the end of 1994. If reform of child care occurs, there are likely to be major changes in how child care is funded (including the subsidy system and grants) and the municipal role as well as other areas.

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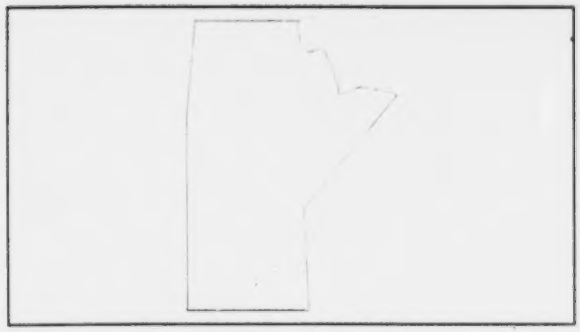
MANITOBA



LEGISLATION

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *The Community Child Day Care Standards Act*, 1983 as amended in 1986.

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *Manitoba Child Day Care Regulations 23/87, 62/86, and 148/83* as amended to Chapter C-158. 1986.

PROVINCIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

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Child Day Care
2nd Floor - 114 Garry Street
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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated care

Maximum number of children permitted 4

No more than 2 children may be under 2 years.

Figure includes the provider's own children under 12 years.

Regulated child care

Day care centres
Full-day group care for at least 5 children under 6 years, or no more than 3 children under 2 years, for more than 4 continuous hours/day, 3 or more days/week.

Nursery schools
Part-time programs enroling more than 3 infants or more than 5 preschoolers of whom no more than 3 are infants, 4 or less continuous hours/day, less than 3 days/week.

Occasional day care centres
Care on an casual basis (maximum of 8 hours/week) for more than 3 infants, or more than 5 preschoolers of whom not more than 3 are infants, or more than 8 children of whom not more than 5 are preschoolers and not more than 3 are infants.

School-age day care centres
Care outside school hours for more than 8 children 6-12 years. These may include children attending kindergarten.

Regulated family day care

Family day care homes
Care in a private home for a maximum of 8 children under 12 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years). Not more than 5 children may be under 6 years, and not more than 3 children may be under 2 years.

Group day care homes
Care in a private home by 2 caregivers for a maximum of 12 children (including the providers' own children under 12 years). Not more than 3 of the children may be under 2 years.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Grants may be available for children with disabilities in provincially-funded programs, including nursery schools through the Children with Disabilities program. Children with special needs are integrated into many child care centres, but most do not receive additional funding. There is now a ceiling on provincial funding for special needs grants.

The Society for Manitobans with Disabilities operates a segregated preschool program with 40 spaces. This receives government funding through another branch of the Department of Family Services, not through the Child Day Care Branch.

There is no special training required for staff working with children with disabilities.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There are no spaces designated specifically for aboriginal children. However, at least 24 child care centres with more than 800 spaces primarily serve aboriginal children. None are on-reserve but some serve children from reserve communities. Three child care centres in the province provide culturally-based aboriginal child care services. An aboriginal early childhood training program at Yellowquill College is in the planning stage.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT[1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)

0-2	50,000
3-5	48,490
6-12	110,535
Total 0-12	209,025

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)

0-2	25,434
3-5	25,870
6-12	59,233
Total 0-12	110,537

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991)[2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	10,460	4,135	nil
5-14 yrs	15,715	7,620	nil

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated)[3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	685	480	687
Speech difficulty	1458	1618	830
Developmental handicap	480	700	780

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	21,080
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	16,080
Total	37,160

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
17 weeks

Parental leave
17 weeks for each parent. Parental leave is available to both natural and adoptive parents.

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - In Manitoba, 7 census subdivisions on reserves or settlements, with an estimated total population of 2,008, were either incompletely or not enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Data from these subdivisions are not included.

3 - Excludes reserves. The figure related to developmental handicap among children 0-4 years should be treated with caution. The standard deviation of the estimated developmental handicap figure is between 16.8% and 33.3%. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (4/92)

Centre-based spaces

	Full-day	Part-time	Total
Infant/toddler	762	23	785
Preschool	7,324	4,152	11,476
School-age	3,243		3,243
Total	11,329	4,175	15,504

Family day care spaces 3,473

Total regulated spaces 18,977

Children with special needs in regulated child care (1991/1992) 580
(participating in the Children with Disabilities program but excluding the Society for Manitobans with Disabilities program)

Subsidized children (12/92) 9,813

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (1992, full-day)

Non-profit	10,223
Commercial	1,106

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size 70 spaces

Maximum room size Two groups of children

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratio	Max. grp sizes
Mixed age groups		
12 wks-2 yrs	1:4	8
2-6 yrs	1:8	16
6-12 yrs	1:15	30
Separate age groups		
12 wks-1 yr	1:3	6
1-2 yrs	1:4	8
2-3 yrs	1:6	12
3-4 yrs	1:8	16
4-5 yrs	1:9	18
5-6 yrs	1:10	20
6-12 yrs	1:15	30
Nursery school		
12 wks-2 yrs	1:4	8
2-6 yrs	1:10	20

Group sizes and staff/child ratios for occasional day care centres are consistent with full-day preschool and school-age day care centres.

Staff qualifications
Manitoba has the following 4 qualification levels:

- CCW III: Diploma (2 year), degree, or advanced certificate relevant to child care, or equivalent
- CCW II: Approved certificate program (one year) or equivalent in an area relevant to child care
- CCW I: Grade 12 or equivalent or one course in child care
- CCA (Child Care Assistant): less than grade 12

All staff must be 18 years of age and have first-aid training. Two-thirds of a centre's staff must be Child Care Workers II or III. Supervisors are required to be qualified as a Child Care Worker III and to have one year's experience.

Parent involvement
All licensed non-profit centres are required to have boards of directors where parents constitute a minimum of 20% of the board members. Commercial programs are supposed to have parent advisory committees.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Thirty provincial Day Care Centre Coordinators conduct a minimum of 4 inspections of each centre each year. Health, fire and building inspections are carried out by separate personnel for day care centres.

Provisional licenses may be issued if the facility does not meet all of the requirements of the regulations, if the facility is not hazardous to the health, safety and well-being of the children, or if time is required to bring it into compliance.

A licensing order may be issued when a severe violation of the *Act* or *Regulations* occurs. The order requires immediate correction of the areas listed on it. It is posted in the centre. Failure to comply may result in suspension or revocation of the license.

A license may be revoked if there is continued non-compliance with licensing requirements and the facility is deemed hazardous to the health, safety and well-being of the children.

Regulated family day care and group day care homes

Regulation
Individually licensed

Maximum capacity
Family day care homes (one caregiver)
Eight children under 12 years, (including the provider's own children under 12 years). No more than 5 children may be under 6 years, and not more than 3 children may be under 2 years.

Group day care homes (two caregivers)
Twelve children under 12 years (including the providers' own children under 12 years). No more than 3 children may be under 2 years.

Provider qualifications
Must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid first-aid certificate. There are no requirements for training in the provision of child care.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Licensed family day care and group family day care providers must comply with specific standards of operation in the *Child Day Care Regulation* including administration, daily program, behaviour management, furnishings and equipment, health, nutrition and emergency procedures requirements.

When a provider applies for a license, provincial Day Care Home Coordinators complete safety inspection reports of the applicant's home. Personal references and written authorization to access information about any criminal record of individuals residing in the family day care home must be provided by the license applicant.

Three drop-in visits per year and one scheduled re-licensing visit per year are conducted.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

Eligibility for fee subsidies is determined by an income test.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point (estimated maximum)
1 parent, 1 child	$13,787	$24,369
2 parents, 2 children	18,895	40,059

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is considerable province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

There is a maximum subsidy of $4,524/child/year.

There is a minimum user fee of $2.40/day.

Centres and family day care homes can surcharge subsidized parents higher than the maximum subsidy rate up to $2.40/day/child.

Funded programs (non-profit centres which meet the requirements to receive operating grants as described below) are required to enrol subsidized children according to demand.

Commercial and non-funded non-profit day care centres licensed before September 1, 1992, may enrol subsidized children. After September 1, 1992, subsidized spaces began to be allocated to new non-profit or commercial facilities based only on demonstrated need.

Grants for child care programs (1992)

Regulated spaces in both non-profit centres and family day care homes may be fully-funded, partially-funded or may operate without any grants. Under Manitoba's legislation, commercial programs are not eligible to receive grants (although they may be allocated subsidized spaces). The decision about whether to fully, partially, or not fund a licensed non-profit program is made by the Child Care Unit after consideration of factors such as the availability of other services in the area, the demographics of the community, the geographic location of the program, the projected viability of the service, and the availability of government funds. Funding takes the form of a one-time-only start-up grant and ongoing operating grants. Partially-funded centres receive operating grants which are approximately half the amount granted to fully-funded programs. Unfunded centres receive no grants but may enrol subsidized children.

Start-up grants (Fully-funded programs)

Full-time day care	$450/space
Nursery school	245/space
School-age	450/space
Special needs	557/space
Family day care	300/space

Capital grants
A discretionary "physical upgrading grant" is technically available to non-profit centres which are fully-funded and were licensed before October 10, 1983. In practice, no such grants have been made for several years. No other capital grants are available.

Workplace day care centre grants
Defined as a centre in which the parents or guardians of the majority of the children enroled are employees of one employers. May receive up to a $75,000 start-up grant and must be operated by a non-profit corporation, separate from the employer.

Operating grants
Child care facilities receiving operating grants may be partially or fully-funded, as explained at the beginning of this section.

Maximum annual operating grants per licensed space:

	Infants	Preschool	School-age
Fully-funded day care centres	$1,768	$1,196	$780
Partially-funded day care centres	885	600	390
Fully-funded day care homes	572	195	195
Partially-funded day care homes and group day care homes	285	195	195

Fully-funded nursery schools	1-5 sessions /week $83	6-10 sessions /week $166

Infant incentive grants
Higher operating grants for infants ($1,768/infant space/centres and $572/infant space/family day care homes) may be available. The program has to apply for this funding. Whether it is received depends on factors such as the availability of infant care in the community and the perceived ability of the service to care for infants.

Special needs grants
Start-up, staffing and specialized grants may be available to assist non-profit centres to integrate children with disabilities into their programs. Grant availability is determined by a provincial funding limit and waiting lists now exist for these grants. Family day care homes are not eligible for these grants.

Other grants
None. Grants to the Manitoba Child Care Association and Family Day Care Association were eliminated in 1993.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fees subsidy program	$25,833,700
Grants [4]	15,883,500
Other	434,700
Total	$42,151,900

52 - Includes transportation, communication, supplies and services, capital, and other operating costs

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $201.65
(estimate based on total provincial expenditures)

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimated) $15,285,000

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 8.60
Teachers	9.29
Teacher directors	12.25
Administrative directors	15.36
Overall mean hourly wage	$ 9.85 (approximately $19,500/year)

Regulated family day care

Infant	$400/child/month
Preschooler	322/child/month

Fees (1991, average monthly)

Maximum fees

The provincial government sets maximum fees for all children (subsidized or full fee) in fully-funded programs.

Daily maximum rates (8 hour day) (1992)

	Centres	Family day care
Infants	$26.45	$19.00
Preschool	17.40	15.10
School-age	10.95	10.35

Average monthly fees (1992)
(which may be lower than maximum rates)

	Centres	Family day care
Infants	$529	$380
Preschool	348	302
School-age	219	207

ADMINISTRATION

The Child Day Care Branch, Department of Family Services, is responsible for licensing group and family child care settings under the *Act*, and providing financial assistance (subsidies), and operating grants to eligible (licensed, non-profit) centres and homes. The office in Winnipeg is the central directorate for the provincial system which is responsible for policy and standards development. There are 9 regional offices which are responsible for monitoring and licensing programs.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

None

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

As of September 1, 1992, every new license application must include a needs assessment which has been conducted according to government guidelines. There are no subsidy allocations available for new licensed programs unless a needs assessment shows there is a need for subsidized spaces in that area. Operating grants may be available if new programs are eligible, however, licensing is not a guarantee of funding.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN MANITOBA

1909 Day Nursery Centre established in Winnipeg by the Mothers' Association.

1943 Nursery school established in the School of Home Economics at University of Manitoba.

1971 Red River Community College initiated a 2 year Child Care Services diploma program.

1974 Provincial Child Day Care Program established in the Department of Health and Social Development. Provided start-up and operating grants to non-profit centres and family day care homes and subsidies for eligible low-income families.

Manitoba Child Care Association was formed to represent child care workers, boards of directors, parents and child care advocates.

1982 *The Community Child Day Care Standards Act* including provision for uniform licensing standards, staff qualifications and criteria for governance and board accountability was passed.

1986 Government introduced salary enhancement grants to eligible non-profit centres.

1988 Appointment of Child Care Task Force.

1989 *Task Force Report* made recommendations for improvement in child care.

One-day strike of child care workers protesting inadequate salaries.

1991 Government restructured funding. It consolidated grants into one operating grant. This had the effect of reducing salary enhancement , redistributing nursery school grants, increasing eligibility level for partial subsidy and providing a daily payment to existing commercial centres on behalf of subsidized children in up to 25% of spaces. Parent fees increased by 18%.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In 1992, a hold on licensing of new day care spaces was put into effect, then lifted after several months.

The report of the Working Group on Francophone Day Care was published. It provided recommendations regarding content, implementation guidelines, and resource requirements for francophone day care services.

In 1993, the total number of subsidies was capped at 9,600 and the government's level of subsidy/space was reduced. Operating grants to child care centres were reduced by 4% and to nursery schools by 50%. The difference between prior and present levels of government funding has to be made up through parent fees. The annual operating grants for the Manitoba Child Care Association and the Family Day Care Association were eliminated.

SASKATCHEWAN

LEGISLATION

Saskatchewan. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Act. Bill 8.* 1990.

Saskatchewan. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Regulations.* 1990.

PROVINCIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated child care

Maximum number of children permitted 8

Figure includes the provider's own children under 13 years.

Regulated child care

Child care centres and day care centres
Both child care centres and day care centres provide care in a group setting for more than 8 children from 6 weeks to 13 years for less than 24 hours. Child care centres are operated by a non-profit multi-service agency, a commercial organization or a municipality. Day care centres are operated by non-profit day care organizations with parent boards of directors.

Part-time centre-based programs are not licensed.

Family child care homes
Care in a private home (including the caregiver's own children under 13 years) for up to 8 children between 6 weeks and 12 years.

School-age child care
Care outside school hours for children up to 12 years in a mixed-age centre, a family child care home or in a program solely for school-age children.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is no written policy regarding child care for children with special needs but the provincial bias is towards integration. There are no segregated child care programs. Integration of up to 15% (25% with special approval) of children with special needs is permitted in a child care/day care centre. The child care program is required to provide appropriate equipment and furnishings and plan for child's individual needs. Funding may be available to support these additional costs. Staff working with special needs children are required to have additional training.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Saskatchewan does not license child care programs on reserves. Native organizations operate 10 licensed child care centres for native children off-reserve.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)		Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)	
0-2	47,175	0-2	29,138
3-5	47,280	3-5	29,663
6-12	112,410	6-12	66,755
Total 0-12	206,865	Total 0-12	125,556

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	9,835	4,355	nil
5-14 yrs	16,375	6,970	nil

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	1033	858	812
Speech difficulty	823	1441	762
Developmental handicap	375	455	460

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	19,270
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	17,880
Total	37,150

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
18 weeks

Parental leave
None

Paternity leave
6 weeks unpaid

Adoption leave
6 weeks

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for interpretation of the data.

2 - In Saskatchewan, 9 census subdivisions on native reserves or settlements, with an estimated total population of 1,230 were either incompletely or not enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. The data from these subdivisions are not included.

3 - Excludes reserves. The figure related to developmental handicap in children 0-4 years should be treated with caution. The standard deviation of the estimated developmental handicap figure is between 16.8% and 33.3%. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1992)

Child/day care centre spaces

Infants	120
Preschool	3,292
School-age	723
Total full-time centre spaces	4,135
Family day care spaces	2,283
Total regulated spaces	6,418
Children with special needs in regulated child care (12/92) (Receiving special needs grants)	163
Subsidized children (12/92)	3,662

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (1992)(excluding school-age)

Municipal spaces	25
Non-profit spaces	3,205
Commercial spaces	205

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size 90 spaces
12 spaces in infant centres

A centre with more than 6 infant spaces may only enrol infants.

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
Infants	1:3	6
Toddlers	1:5	10
Preschool (30 mos-6 yrs)	1:10	20
School-age (6-12 yrs)	1:15	30

Staff qualifications
Centre supervisor must have a one year certificate in child care or equivalent.

Every staff member must take a 130 hour child care orientation course or equivalent, provided through regional community colleges, unless the person has a one year certificate in child care or equivalent.

One staff member in each centre must have completed a first-aid course.

Staff working with children who have special needs must have additional training.

Parent involvement
Day care centres are administered by parent boards. In these programs, 51% of the board members must be parents who are using the program. Child care centres are required to have parent advisory committees.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Twelve provincial program consultants develop, license, monitor and consult with both centres and family child care homes and conduct annual license renewal visits. They may make periodic drop-in visits throughout the year.

If a program is in non-compliance with the standards so that the non-compliance does not impact on the health or safety of the children, the centre may be given a conditional license with a time frame in which it must comply or may be given a provisional license for up to 6 months. If a non-compliance is not addressed within the time frame granted or the 6 month period, or if it may impact on the health or safety of the children, the legislation gives the program consultant the authority to close the program. There is no appeal board or formal appeal mechanism, but the program can appeal directly to the Minister.

Regulated family day care

Regulation
Individually licensed

Maximum capacity
Up to 8 children (including the provider's own children under 13 years) between 6 weeks to 12 years. Of the 8 children, only 5 may be younger than 6 years; of these 5, only 2 may be younger than 30 months.

Provider qualifications
Must be 18 years. They are required to take an orientation course and first-aid training.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
There are 12 program consultants who monitor and consult with both centres and family day care homes. Program consultants conduct annual visits to renew licenses in addition to periodic drop-in visits throughout the year.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

There is a two-step eligibility process. To be eligible for consideration, parents must be employed or seeking employment, attending school or a training program, receiving medical treatment, or have a child with special needs. If the parent meets one of these criteria, an income test is applied.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (gross income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1or 2 parent, 1 child	$19,668	$30,948
1 or 2 parents, 2 children	20,868	43,428

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is considerable province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated. Saskatchewan uses gross income level to determine eligibility while most other provinces use net income.

Maximum subsidy

Centres and regulated family child care homes

90% of the fee up to a maximum of $235child/month.

Minimum user fee is 10% of the actual cost of care. Centres and regulated family child care homes may surcharge subsidized parents above the 10% minimum.

Subsidies are payable only to non-profit centres or regulated family child care homes.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Start-up grants

Centres	$600/space
Family child care homes	200/home
Family child care homes (north)	300/home

Start-up grants are discretionary and subject to the availability of funds.

Capital grants
Not available

Operating grants
Operating allowance to centres

Infants	$40/space/month
Toddlers	35/space/month
Preschool	30/space/month
School-age	20/space/month

Teen infant centre grants
Operating grants of $425/month/child are available for infant centres in high schools. These spaces are not eligible for regular fee subsidies.

Equipment grants
An annual grant of $50/space is available to approved family child care homes after the first year of operation to replace supplies and equipment.

Northern centre equipment grant
$100/year/space

Special needs grants (child development grants)
Supervision grants
$200/month/child to assist regulated family day care homes and centres with additional staff costs associated with the special needs child.

Equipment grant
$50/month/child to a maximum of one year to assist centres and regulated family day care homes with special needs equipment requirements ($100/month in exceptional cases).

Other grants
Northern transportation grant
$20/month/child if required

Grants are available only to non-profit parent-controlled centres or regulated homes.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care subsidy program	$10,555,000
Start-up grant	48,200
Centre operating grant	984,300
Family day care equipment grant	72,100
Northern equipment grant	20,600
Northern transportation grant	13,500
Child development grant	329,200
Teen infant centre grant	273,800
Other	10,000
Total	$12,306,700

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) (estimate based on total provincial expenditures) $59.49

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimated) $6,264,000

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 6.59
Teachers	7.52
Teacher directors	9.42
Administrative directors	12.52
Overall mean hourly wage	$ 7.94 (approximately $16,000/year)

Family day care rates

Between $250 and $340/month/child

Fees (1992, average monthly)

	Child care and day care centres	Family day care homes
Infants	$418	$337
Preschool	328	314
School-age	255	264

ADMINISTRATION

The Child Day Care Division in the Department of Social Services administers the legislation and is responsible for initiating new child care services, providing consultation, and developing standards and training. Monitoring, licensing, and consul-tation are provided regionally through 3 regional offices and 2 sub-offices.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

Saskatchewan legislation provides for child care centres administered by municipalities. One centre has been licensed under this provision.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

A government-appointed Child Care Advisory Board advises on child care issues and may assist in the establishment of long-term program directions. There is no formal written government statement of principles for child care nor a provincial plan.

Currently, new non-profit or commercial centres and family child care homes apply to the province for a license to operate. If the regulations are met, a license is granted. Subsidies and grants are subject to approval and availability.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN SASKATCHEWAN

1960s Several child care centres were established in major cities. There were 13 in Regina by the decade's end.

1970 The first child care regulations were established by Order-in-Council under *The Child Welfare Act*. These regulations introduced government funding including monthly operating grants, start-up grants and fee subsidies for low-income and social assistance families.

1975 New child care regulations were passed under the authority of *The Family Services Act* describing eligibility, the process of licensing, standards of operation and available grants and subsidies. Family day care homes and day care centres which were incorporated, non-profit and parent-controlled could be licensed and were eligible for funding.

1980 An interdepartmental government report, *The Day Care Review*, identified affordability, availability and quality as key issues.

Action Child Care, an advocacy group based in Saskatoon, was established.

1980s Very little expansion in services or funding. Growth of unlicensed centres.

1990 *The Child Care Act and Regulations* were proclaimed requiring licensing of all centres and establishing increased training requirements.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In 1992 the Minister of Social Services appointed a Child Care Advisory Board to advise on current child care issues and to assist in the establishment of long-term program directions. There are 5 community participants representing provincial and national child care organizations.

In 1993, grants were introduced to encourage initiation of work-related child care centres. They will cover 50% of development and capital costs up to a total of $10,000.

The province will provide a tuition subsidy for 1/3 of the cost of the 130 hour required orientation course for child care staff.

A review of child care policy is currently under way.

ALBERTA

LEGISLATION

Alberta. Legislative Assembly. *Social Care Facilities Licensing Act. Chapter S-14*. 1980. As amended.

Alberta. Legislative Assembly. *Alberta Day Care Regulation 333/90* as amended to Chapter S-14, 1980.

PROVINCIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated care

Maximum number of children permitted 3

Figure includes the provider's own children under 12 years.

Regulated child care

Day care centres
Seven or more children under 6 years in a group setting for more than 3 but less than 24 hours/day.

Licensed family day homes
Care in a private home for up to 6 children under 12 years with a maximum of 3 children under 3 years, with no more than 2 children under 2 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years). These homes are individually licensed by the province.

Approved family day homes
Care in a private home for up to 6 children under 12 years with a maximum of 3 children under 3 years, with no more than 2 children under 2 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years). Providers are under contract with a commercial or non-profit family day home agency which can operate independently or as part of a day care centre. The agencies are not licensed, but have a contract with the provincial government to administer and monitor approved family day homes.

Licensed drop-in centres
Programs for children 0-6 years which are permitted to operate with lower staff/child ratios than are day care centres. No child may attend for more than 40 hours/month.

Nursery schools
Part-time programs (maximum 3 hours/day, 2-3 days a week) for 7 or more children 3-6 years. These include Mother's Day Out Programs (run on a co-operative basis by parents and providing occasional care for children from 0-12 years) as well as kindergartens not under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education.

Other services
Out-of-school child care programs
Programs for children 6-12 years outside school hours. Municipalities may choose to become involved in the provision of out-of-school care by contracting with an agency for service delivery. Each municipality may develop its own standards and monitoring for the programs with which it contracts; the province does not license these programs.

There are, in addition, school-age programs not under contract to a municipality which receive no municipal or provincial funding and are required to meet only minimum standards. They are not regulated or monitored.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Alberta has no segregated programs for children with disabilities. It has a policy, currently under revision, which encourages integration of children with special needs. However, there are no regulations which address issues such as the maximum percentage of handicapped children in integrated programs or staff training. A grant may be available to child care services which integrate children with special needs to assist with the additional cost of providing care for these children.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

On-reserve child care centres are eligible for federal government funding equivalent to provincial operating grants and parent subsidies if they meet provincial licensing standards. There are 18 on-reserve child care centres, 9 of which meet provincial standards. There are no off-reserve aboriginal child care centres; however, some urban programs are oriented to, and primarily serve, aboriginal children.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)

0-2	125,675
3-5	124,030
6-12	278,885
Total 0-12	528,590

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the labour force (1991, estimated)

0-2	76,209
3-5	73,299
6-12	157,879
Total 0-12	307,387

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	9,555	6,440	375
5-14 yrs	17,135	9,260	340

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs
Use of technical aid	2431	2605	4097
Speech difficulty	3219	5766	2080
Developmental handicap	1685	2230	1325

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	55,060
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	41,580
Total	96,640

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
18 weeks

Parental leave
None

Adoption leave
8 weeks

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1-See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - In Alberta, 8 reserve census subdivisions with an estimated total population of 3,234, were either incompletely or not enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Data from these subdivisions are not included. Across Canada as a whole, 36% of those who identified as North American Indian lived on reserves or settlements. Statistics Canada (Catalogue 94-327, 1993) suggests that the figures on the Inuit population in Alberta be used with caution since the standard deviation between the estimated figures is 16.6% and 33.3%.

3-Excludes reserves. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

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SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1992)

Child care centres	
Infants	4,250
Preschool	39,410
Total regulated centre spaces	43,660
Approved and licensed family day home spaces	7,996
Total regulated spaces	51,656
Children with special needs in regulated child care (average monthly)	401
Subsidized children (12/92)	11,598

Sponsorship of regulated centres (3/92)
(includes licensed day care centres, nursery schools and drop-in programs)

Non-profit	15,462
Commercial	28,198

In Alberta, all spaces are licensed as full-time.

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size 80 spaces

Maximum staff/child rations and group sizes

Age	Day care cntr.	Nursery school	Drop -in cntr.	Max. group sizes
0-12 mos	1:3	1:6	1:5	6
13-18 mos	1:4	1:6	1:5	8
19-35 mos	1:6	1:10	1:8	12
3-5 yrs	1:8	1:12	1:12	16
5-6 yrs	1:10	1:15	1:15	20

Staff qualifications
Child care centre directors are required to have training equivalent to a one year community college certificate.

One in 6 staff in each centre is required to have training equivalent to a one year community college early childhood education certificate. By September 1, 1994, that ratio will increase to 1 in 5 and, by September 1, 1995, to 1 in 4.

All other child care staff are required to have a 50 hour orientation course or equivalent course work.

There is no requirement for staff working with children who have special needs to have had additional training.

Parent involvement
Not specified

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Annual re-licensing inspections and quarterly monitoring visits are conducted by 28 provincial licensing officers and day care specialists. The *Day Care Licensing Policy Manual* (1987) provides interpretation of the legislation.

If a centre is in non-compliance with the regulations, a series of actions may occur, starting with a formal written order directing the centre to comply within a specific time frame, up to cancellation of the license, or refusal to renew it.

There is a formal Appeal Board set up by the Minister to hear appeals if a license is cancelled or refused. The legislation allows the decision of the Appeal Panel to be appealed at the Court of Queen's Bench. Its decision is binding.

Regulated family day care

Regulation
The government enters into contracts with approved family day home agencies which require the agencies to approve and monitor providers according to provincial standards. Agencies contract with individual care providers.

A few family day homes are directly licensed under the *Alberta Day Care Regulation 333/90*. These family day homes operate independently and can care for a maximum of 6 preschool children.

Maximum capacity
Up to 6 children under 12 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years) with a maximum of 3 children under 3 years, with no more than 2 children under 2 years.

Provider qualifications
No requirements

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Monitoring of homes supervised by family day home agencies is done by the agency's staff who are expected to visit each family day home at least once a month, as well as through a monitoring of a sample of homes by provincial government specialists. Provincial staff monitor a sample of day homes to check whether agencies are enforcing the requirements of the provincial standards and their contract with the government. In the case of the few directly licensed day homes, provincial licensing officers visit licensed homes several times a year to monitor compliance with provincial standards.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents.

There is a two-step eligibility process. Parents must first satisfy criteria related to their reason for needing subsidized child care, e.g. employed, enroled in a training program, parent has a special need, or child has a special need. An income test is then applied.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (adjusted gross income)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$18,710	$25,765 (no infant)
2 parents, 2 children	22,780	37,970 (no infant)

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is considerable province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

Maximum subsidy by age of child/month

Infants in day care centres	$370
Other ages in day care centres and children in family day care homes	$300

There is a minimum user fee of $40/month/family.

Child care centres and family day home providers may surcharge parents above the minimum $40.

Subsidized children may enrol in non-profit or commercial licensed day care centres and approved family day homes.

Subsidies are not available in drop-in centres, nursery schools, or licensed family day care homes.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Start-up grants
Not available

Capital grants
Not available

Operating grants
Current operating allowances (9/92)

0- 12 mos	$180/child/month
13-18 mos	140/child/month
19-35 mos	100/child/month
3 - 4½ yrs	78/child/month
4½ yrs and older	65/child/month

All licensed full-day centres (non-profit and commercial) receive the grants. Nursery schools receive no provincial funding.

The operating allowances have decreased in the last year and will continue to decrease each year.

Family day home agency administrative fee
A monthly administrative fee is paid to approved family day home agencies which contract with the Ministry to recruit, train, and supervise individual day home providers, collect fees and pay providers.

Age	Monthly fee
0-35 mos	$103/child
3-5 yrs	65/child

Infant incentive grant
Not available

Special needs grants
Funding is provided on a regional basis to assist in the integration of children with special needs by providing specialized resource personnel and/or the provision of consultation and training services. There is no upper limit on the grant to an individual program. As each region's budget for integration is finite, the funding is not guaranteed. Both non-profit and commercial programs are eligible for special needs grants.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fee subsidy program	$31,732,000
Operating allowance to centres	25,641,000
Family day home agency fee	7,173,000
Integrated child care	2,067,000
Total	$66,613,000

Provincial cost-sharing for school-age child care services is administered through Family and Community Support Services and is not included in these figures. Municipalities are responsible for a minimum of 20% of the costs of school-age child care which receives funding. Municipal involvement in school-age child care is voluntary.

Annual child care expenditure for each child 0-12 yrs (1991) $126.03
(estimate based on total provincial expenditures)

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimates)

It is estimated that the federal government's contribution to Albertas expenditures on child care under the Canada Assistance Plan in 1992/1993 should be $11,135,000. However, Alberta is one of the 3 provinces (the other 2 are Ontario and British Columbia) which had a ceiling of 5% imposed on expenditure growth under the Canada Assistance Plan by the federal government's March, 1990 budget. The actual amount contributed for child care cannot be specifically identified but may be less than the above estimate.

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 6.23
Teachers	6.76
Teacher directors	8.14
Administrative directors	10.45
Overall mean hourly wage	$ 6.95 (approximately $14,000/year)

Family day care rates

Providers received between $280 and $320/child/month

Fees (1992, average monthly)

	Child care centres	Approved family day homes
Infants	$382	$326
Preschool	348	324

Data on the average fee in school-age programs was not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Day Care Programs area of the Department of Alberta Family and Social Services administers the legislation, regulations and policies for child care through 6 regional offices. Each region is responsible for the delivery, consultation and licensing functions within its own area. The Edmonton-based central office is responsible for program and policy development, monitoring the system as a whole, and the staff qualification and certification program.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

Until 1980, municipalities paid 20% of the cost of subsidized care. In 1980, the province took over full funding of subsidies as well as the administration of child care for children up to 6 years. If a municipal government chooses to become involved in school-age programs, they may be provided as contracted services and up to 20% of the cost may be contributed by municipal governments. The provincial government allocates some funds to municipalities to be used for out-of-school (school-age) subsidies under the Family and Community Support Services Program.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is no formal strategic planning process for the provincial child care system as a whole. New programs apply for a license. If they meet provincial standards and receive a license they are then eligible for operating grants and subsidies.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN ALBERTA

1942 Alberta signed the Dominion-Provincial Agreement with the federal government but did not establish child care centres. The need for child care was refuted by an advisory committee.

1966 Community Day Nursery, the first centre to received public funds, was opened in Edmonton.

The *Preventive Social Services Act* delegated decision-making authority for child care to municipalities and introduced 80/20 cost-sharing arrangements with participating municipalities. Public and non-profit centres were able to receive subsidies for eligible low-income families.

1971 The Alberta Association for Young Children established.

1972 Early Childhood Services Programs (kindergartens) were established by the provincial Department of Education.

1978 *The Social Care Facilities Licensing Act* included the first legislated child care regulations and changed funding from supporting child care programs to fee subsidies for low income families.

1980 The provincial government took over the municipal share of funding of subsidies and administration of child care services for children up to 6 years.

Operating allowances (operating grants to non-profit and commercial child care centres) were introduced.

1981 Standards were established for family day homes.

A policy was developed and special funding authorized for an Integrated Day Care Service (integration of children with special needs into mainstream programs).

1990 An announcement was made that operating grants would be phased out over a period of a year.

Alberta's first staff qualification requirements were introduced.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In 1992, policy recommendations for child care centres were developed by the Parent Advisory Working Committee and adopted by the provincial government. Amendments to the regulations are now under consideration. This activity may be affected by a government-wide de-regulation initiative.

New licensing manuals for both child day care services and nursery schools were distributed in 1993.

The provincial government's decision to balance its budget within 3 years may result in decreased funding and stricter eligibility requirements for parent subsidy.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

LEGISLATION

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *Community Care Facility Act.* Chapter 57. 1988.

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *British Columbia Child Care Regulation 319/89* as amended to O.C. 1476/89.

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Act.* 1979.

PROVINCIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated care

Maximum number of children permitted 2

Children unrelated by blood or marriage to the caregiver.

Regulated child care

Group day care
Group care for no more than 13 hours/day up to 5 days/week.

Preschool (formerly licensed as nursery school)
Group care for no more than 4 hours/day for no more than 20 children 30 months to 6 years.

Out-of-school care
Care outside school hours, including school vacations, for children 5-12 years for not more than 13 hours/day. Out-of-school care may be provided in family day care homes or centres.

Child minding
Care up to 3 hours/day, not more than 2 days/week for children 18 months to 12 years. There may a maximum of 16 children where any child is under 3 years and a maximum of 20 children if all are 3 years or older.

Emergency child care
Care for no more than 72 hours/month. Groups may be no larger than 12 for children under 3 years and no larger than 25 for older children.

Licensed family day care homes
Care in a private home for no more than 5 preschool and 2 school-age children (including all children under 12 years living in the home) for a maximum of 13 hours/day.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

British Columbia has both segregated and integrated child care programs for children with special needs. A limited number of group day care facilities are approved and funded under the Special Needs Day Care Program to provide integrated child care. In these centres, at least 25% of the children have special needs. A maximum of 16 preschool children, or 12 children under 3 years are permitted per group and the child can attend no more than 13 hours a day. Once the child's eligibility has been determined, families are not required to contribute to the cost of care. Other centres or family day care homes may also receive grants for eligible individual children through the Special Needs Day Care Program.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There are 11 licensed native child care centres on reserves. Generally, these do not receive provincial funding except the Infant/Toddler Incentive Grant. Four of these are supported by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; the remainder are paid for through parental fees and/or Band support.

PROVINCIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)		Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the labour force (1991, estimated)	
0-2	133,005	0-2	71,533
3-5	133,415	3-5	81,947
6-12	312,150	6-12	182,111
Total 0-12	578,570	Total 0-12	335,591

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	11,630	1,205	nil
5-14 yrs	20,715	1,905	285

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [3]

	0-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14yrs
Use of technical aid	1343	2431	3841
Speech difficulty	2550	4948	3671
Developmental handicap	690 [4]	2355	2680

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	58,465
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	41,925
Total	100,390

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
18 weeks

Parental leave
12 weeks for each parent, available to both natural and adoptive parents.

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by 1 parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for interpretation of the data.

2 - In British Columbia, 130 reserve and settlement census subdivisions with an estimated total population of 6,944, were either incompletely or not enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Data from these subdivisions are not included. Across the nation as a whole, approximately 36% of those who identified as North American Indian lived on reserves or settlements.

3 - Excludes reserves. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

4 - This figure should be used with caution. The standard deviation of the estimate for this age group is between 16.6% and 33.3%.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1991)[5]

Program type	Full-time spaces	Part-time spaces
Group day care (under 3 yrs)	1,465	-
Group day care (3-5 yrs)	10,147	-
Preschool	-	11,835
Out-of-school	-	7,188
Child minding	-	1,602
Special needs	1,299	-

Total centre-based spaces[6]	35,569
Total full-time centre-based spaces	12,911
Total family day care spaces	7,391
Total regulated spaces	40,927
Children with special needs in regulated child care (1992)	1,299
Subsidized children (average 1992/1993)	23,324

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces (1992)

Non-profit	23,228
Commercial	14,593

5 - Some of the spaces identified as full-time spaces in group care (under 3 yrs and 3-5 yrs) and special needs may actually be part-time spaces. Information on the extent to which this might be the situation was not available.

6 - Will not equal the sum of all types of services as given in the table. Some facilities offer more than one service and the licensed capacity for a particular facility does not always equal the sum of the spaces by service.

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size: Not specified

Maximum staff/child rations and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max.group sizes
0-3 yrs	1:4	12
30 mos-6 yrs	1:8	25
Kindergarten - grade 1	1:10	20
7-12 yrs	1:15	25
Special needs	1:4	7

Staffing qualifications
There are 3 categories of training/education/experience defining staff qualifications:

- *Early childhood educator*

Completion of a basic (at least 10 months) early childhood training program offered by an approved institution and 500 hours of supervised work experience.

- *Infant/toddler educator*

Completion of the basic early childhood education program plus specialized post-basic training in infant/toddler care and education.

- *Special needs educator*

Completion of the basic early childhood education program plus post-basic training in special needs.

For the purposes of defining staff requirements in child care programs, people who are currently enroled in basic early childhood education training are called assistant early childhood educators.

Qualification requirements:

- *Group day care, under 36 months*

Each group of 5 to 8 children requires one infant/toddler educator and one early childhood educator. Each group of 9 to 12 children requires one infant/toddler educator, one early childhood educator and one assistant.

- *Group day care, 30 months to school-age*

Each group requires one early childhood educator plus assistants.

• *Out-of-school and child minding*
Staff must be older than 19 years and have taken a course on the care of young children or have relevant work experience.

• *Special needs*
Special needs facilities (group care facilities where at least 25% of the children are children with special needs) require one special needs educator for every group of 4 or fewer children. Larger groups require one special needs educator plus early childhood educators.

Parent Involvement
Not specified

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
The Ministry of Health, through the *Community Care Facility Act*, is responsible for ensuring licensing and monitoring of child care facilities as well as developing policies and procedures specific to program licensing.

The local Medical Health Officer, through licensing officers, issues interim permits and licenses, amends, suspends or cancels licenses, investigates complaints about programs and conducts inspections and ongoing monitoring of programs.

An interim permit may be issued for one year for a new program which has a minor non-compliance with the regulations; new programs in full com-pliance are issued licenses. After a year, a program with an interim permit will have a full license issued or licensing will be denied. There are no legislated requirements for the frequency of licensing visits but, by Ministry of Health policy, they must be done at least annually.

If a centre is in non-compliance, conditions can be placed on the license and the operator given a time frame in which to comply. If the situation is considered a danger to the children, the license can be suspended or cancelled. The operator can request a hearing before the Director of the Community Care Facilities Branch and then, if not satisfied, can go to the Provincial Community Care Facilities Appeal Board. This is composed of non-government members, including people from the child care field, and its decisions are binding.

Regulated family day care

Regulation
Individually licensed

Maximum capacity
Up to 7 children under 12 years (including children living in the home). There may be no more than 5 preschoolers and 2 school-aged children, no more than 2 children under age 2 years, and no more than one child under one year.

Provider qualifications
Must be over 19 years and have a first-aid certificate. There are no early childhood training requirements.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Annual licensing visits are conducted by Ministry of Health licensing officers. An initial inspection by the Fire Marshall's office is required when a new home opens.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents. It is administered under *Guaranteed Available Income for Need Act and Regulations*.

Eligibility is determined through an income test.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$18,756	$27,156 (centre-based 3 yrs+)
2 parents, 2 children	$22,692	$31,092 (centre-based 3 yrs+)

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is considerable province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

Maximum subsidy by age of child (1993)

Type of care	Part-time monthly (4 hrs or less/day)	Full-time monthly (more than 4 hrs/day)
Family (0-18 mos)	$219	$438
Family (19-36 mos)	187	374
Family (3-5 yrs)	145	290
Group (0-18 mos	287	574
Group (19-36 mos)	259	518
Group (3-5 yrs)	175	350
Out-of-school		
Kindergarten	200	250
Grade 1 to 12 yrs	145	170
In-own-home[7]		
1st child (0-18 mos)	193	386
1st child (over 18 mos)	156	312
2nd child (0-18 mos)	97	194
Each additional child	72	144

There is no minimum user fee.

Child care services may surcharge subsidized parents above the maximum subsidy rates.

The parents of children who are accepted into the Special Needs Day Care Program have all the costs associated with the provision of child care subsidized (no fees).

Families determined as eligible for fee subsidy may use commercial, non-profit, licensed or unregulated child care except facilities licensed as child minding. If unregulated care is used, the parent must complete a checklist on the provider and submit it to the Ministry of Social Services. British Columbia is one of two Canadian jurisdictions to subsidize unregulated care.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Start-up grants

Child care needs assessment and planning grants program

Up to $10,000 may be available to non-profit groups or local governments to assist them in conducting a community needs assessment and an additional $10,000 may be available for planning.

Capital grants

Child care facilities and equipment grant program

Up to 50% of eligible capital costs to a maximum of $500,000 may be available to assist with facility acquisition, renovation of an existing facility or purchase of furnishings and equipment.

Emergency repair, replacement, and relocation grants.

Up to $5,000 to existing non-profit licensed group child care centres, preschool and out-of-school centres to assist with upgrading existing facilities, relocation, or replacing furnishings and equipment to comply with the government's licensing regulations.

Over a 3 year period, beginning in 1993, BC21, a capital program, will spend $32.3 million on capital expenditures to build 7500 new child care spaces in schools, post-secondary and training institutions, hospitals, and government buildings.

Operating grants

Not available

Infant/toddler incentive grants

Five dollars/day per occupied space to non-profit group care services which are licensed for children under 36 months; $3/day per occupied space to licensed family day homes for up to 2 children under 2 years. Eighty-five percent of the grant must be used for wages and benefits of staff working with children, although not necessarily staff working directly with infants and toddlers.

Salary enhancement grant

British Columbia currently has no salary enhancement grant program. However, it was announced in the 1993/94 budget that the issue of child care salaries would be addressed. As noted above, 85% of the infant/toddler incentive grant awarded to centres is to go to staff salaries and benefits.

Special Needs Day Care Program

Funds to assist with costs for caring for children with special needs in either designated integrated or segregated group child care centres which have a contract with the government or through subsidization of individual children in other group programs or in family day care homes. It is intended to cover equipment and additional staffing costs.

7 - In-own-home refers to the situation where the parent has someone come in to the parental home to care for the child. This is a form of unlicensed care but fee subsidies are allowed.

Other grants

Child care quality enhancement grants

One-time grants to local governments, non-profit child care programs, and public post-secondary school institutions to enhance the quality, accessibility and affordability of child care services. The funds may be used for demonstration projects, professional development for caregivers and board members, community awareness initiatives, and research and evaluation.

Child care support programs

Annualized funding for 32 non-profit organizations for the purpose of recruitment, support and training of both licensed and unlicensed family day care providers and the development and operation of resource and referral services for all types of care. The amount of funds received by each organization is based upon a budget submission and subsequent negotiation.

Financial management and administration support program

A contracted service delivered through the Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre and targeted to existing non-profit programs to assist them to develop and maintain financially sound management practices. Included in the resources and services available through this program are: assistance in the development of child care operation manuals, financial counselling by telephone or on-site, and training workshops.

Provincial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fee subsidy program	$59,740,000
Grants	64,000
Children with special needs	18,090,000
Child care support programs	1,800,000
Total	$79,694,000

Annual child care expenditure for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $137.74

(estimate based on total provincial expenditures)

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992)

It is estimated that the federal government contribution to provincial expenditures on child care under the Canada Assistance Plan in 1992/1993 should be $24,277,000. However, British Columbia is one of 3 provinces (the other 2 are Ontario and Alberta) which had a ceiling of 5% imposed on expenditure growth under the Canada Assistance Plan by the federal government's March, 1990 budget. Therefore, the actual amount contributed specifically for child care cannot be identified but is likely to be less than the above estimate.

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 7.85
Teachers	8.94
Teacher directors	10.14
Administrative directors	12.73
Overall mean hourly wage	$ 9.06 (approximately $18,000/year)

Family day care rates

Providers received an average of $400/child/month.

Fees (1991, average monthly)

Licensed centred-based care	
Infants	$608
Toddlers	496
Preschool (30 mo-6 yrs)	366
Preschool - part day (36 mo-5 yrs)	97
Out-of-school	172
Child minding	2.87/hr.
Family day care	$400

ADMINISTRATION

The Ministry of Women's Equality has the lead role in supporting, stabilizing and expanding child care services. Its responsibilities include: working with other ministries to coordinate child care policies, community planning and resource development, the administration of grants to child care programs, the provision of secretariat support for the Provincial Child Care Council, the facilitation of child care research, responsibility for the fee subsidy program and the Special Needs Program.

The Ministry of Health is responsible for ensuring licensing, monitoring and enforcing compliance with the regulations, certifying early childhood educators, approving early childhood training programs, and developing policies and procedures specific to program licensing and certification of early childhood educators.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

None

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Women's Equality is responsible for cross-ministry coordination of child care initiatives through an Inter-ministerial Child Care Coordinating Committee which includes it and 8 other ministries with responsibilities which impact on the provision of child care. This Committee has produced a strategic plan for stabilization and expansion of the child care system.

A provincial child care council, composed of non-government people, provides the Minister with advice on child care program development and evaluation.

Communities are encouraged, and may be funded, to do a local needs assessment and develop a local plan for child care. Requests for funding new or expanded programs must show evidence of identified community need and community support.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

1910 The City Creche established in Vancouver as a child care service and employment agency.

1930 Vancouver Day Nursery Association (later the Foster Day Care Association of Vancouver) established to provide an employment service for women and a system of family day care homes opened.

1943 The *Welfare Institutions Licensing Act* amended to govern and license creches, day nursery playschools and kindergartens was established.

1968 B.C. Preschool Teachers' Association (later, Early Childhood Educators of B.C.) was established.

1969 The Provincial Child Care Facilities Licensing Board replaced the Welfare Institutions Licensing Board.

1972 The Children's Services Employees Union was established.

1981 The B.C. Day Care Action Coalition was established.

1982 The Western Canada Family Day Care Association was established.

1990 A task force on child care was appointed.

1991 The Task Force on Child Care report, *Showing we care: A child care strategy for the 90's*, was published.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In 1992, the Child Care Branch, Ministry of Women's Equality was established. The Provincial Child Care Facilities Licensing Board was disbanded and replaced with a Director of Community Care Facilities.

The Infant/Toddler Incentives Grant was established in 1992.

In 1992, a province-wide consultation on child care for children with special needs was conducted. A committee which is expected to make recommendations on child care for children with special needs in the fall of 1993.

In 1993, a child care regulation review was conducted through community forums as a beginning phase to a review of the regulations.

A provincial child care council was appointed to provide advice to the Minister of Women's Equality on developing new child care programs, evaluating existing programs, and facilitating community discussion.

A school-based child care working group has been established by the Ministry of Education to address ways to increase school district participation in the development of school-aged child care.

A local government working group has been established by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Housing to recommend actions to assist local government to improve and expand child care services.

A transfer of responsibility for the child care fee subsidy program and funding of the special needs program from the Ministry of Social Services to the Ministry of Women's Equality was announced in September 1993.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

LEGISLATION

Northwest Territories. Legislative Assembly. *The Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act* and the *Child Day Care Standards and Regulations*. 1988.

TERRITORIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

Child Care Section
Department of Education, Culture and Employment
Government of the Northwest Territories
Lahm Ridge Tower, 1st floor
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9

Telephone: (403) 920-8780

CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated child care

Maximum number of children permitted 4

Figure includes the provider's own children up to 11 years.

Regulated child care

Child care centres
Group care for less than 24 hours/day for children from 0-12 years by a person who is not a relative of a majority of the children.

Nursery schools
Programs for children less than 6 years for 4 consecutive hours or less a day.

School-age child care centres
Care outside school hours for school-age children (usually 6-12 years) not exceeding 5 hours outside the required school program.

Family day homes
Care in a private home for up to 8 children under 12 years (including the provider's own children).

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are no segregated child care programs for children with special needs. There is no specific policy regarding integration of children with special needs but integration is encouraged to the maximum extent possible.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

In 1993, there were 11 regulated child care centres in 7 Inuit communities, 6 regulated child care centres in 4 Dene communities, and one native kindergarten centre.

TERRITORIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)		Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991, estimated)
0-2	4,550	Information not available
3-5	4,140	
6-12	8,150	
Total 0-12	16,840	

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	1,415	565	3,500
5-14 yrs	2,170	815	5,435

Children 0-9 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991, estimated) [3]

	0-9 yrs
Use of technical aid	123
Speech difficulty	176
Developmental handicap	40

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	1,265
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	1,415
Total	2,680

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
20 weeks

Parental leave
12 weeks for each parent, available both to natural and adoptive parents.

Family responsibility leave
None

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid for through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page i for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - The Northwest Territories is the only jurisdiction in Canada in which aboriginal people make up the majority of the population. In the Northwest Territories, all native reserves and settlements were enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*.

3 - Apparently, in the Northwest Territories, the numbers were too small for Statistics Canada to be able to make estimates by the age categories 0-4 yrs, 5-9 yrs, and 10-14 yrs. Therefore, an estimate for age 0-9 yrs is provided. Excludes reserves. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1992)[4]

Centre-based	883
Family day care	80
Total regulated spaces	963

Special needs children in regulated child care
Information not available

Subsidized children (12/92) 150

Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (1991)[4]

Non-profit	637
Commercial	132

The number of centre spaces by age range or by full- or part-time status is not available.

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size — Not specified

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-12 mos	1:3	6
13-24 mos	1:4	8
25-35 mos	1:6	12
3 yrs	1:8	16
4 yrs	1:9	18
5-11 yrs	1:10	20

Staff qualifications
Must be at least 19 years and have a first-aid certificate. There are no early childhood training requirements.

Parent Involvement
The legislation requires non-profit programs to have boards of directors with at least 51% parent members. Commercial programs are required to establish and confirm in writing with the Director of the Child Day Care Section a means of involving the parents or guardians of children attending the centre in the operation of the program.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Annual inspections of all licensed child care centres are conducted by a Program Officer from the Child Day Care Section, the Public Health Department and the Fire Marshall's office. If a centre is not in compliance with the regulations, a provisional license is issued; the centre is expected to comply within one year.

Regulated family day care

Regulation
Individually licensed

Maximum capacity
Maximum of 8 children under 12 years (including the provider's own children). No more than 6 of the 8 children may be 5 years, no more than 3 children may be under 3 years, and no more than 2 children may be under 2 years.

Provider qualifications
A provider must be a minimum of 19 years of age and have a first-aid certificate. There are no early childhood training requirements.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
Homes are visited at least once a year by a program officer from the Child Day Care Section and representatives from each of the Public Health Department and the Fire Marshall's office.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents if it is a regulated service. In the case of unregulated care, the subsidy is paid to the parent, not the care provider.

The intention of the subsidy program is to provide an incentive for the parent to work or take part in a training program.

Eligibility is determined by an income test which takes into consideration parent costs and family size as well as income.

4 - Data from the territorial child care office is not available. Instead, data from Status of Daycare in Canada was used for the relevant years.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income, 1993)

	Turning point	Break-even point
1 parent, 1 child	$ 8,268	$21,456
	15,576	39,576
2 parents, 2 children	$ 9,564	$22,752
	18,024	45,012

Income ceiling varies with the regional cost of living. The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is considerable province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

Maximum subsidy by age of child

There is no territory-wide maximum subsidy. Families can receive up to 100% of the actual cost in regulated and unregulated care if the parent is in a training program.

There is no minimum user fee.

Subsidies are payable to any regulated commercial or non-profit service or to an unregulated child care provider. Parents may use any available child care.

The Northwest Territories and British Columbia are the only Canadian jurisdictions to subsidize unregulated care.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Start-up grants
Available on a one-time basis to non-profit child care centres and family day care homes which will be providing full-time licensed care. For centres, the amount ranges between $1,200 and $2,280/space and for family day care, it ranges between $750 and $1,425/space. The amount of the grants varies with the region (there are 10 regions).

Capital grants
Not available

Operating grants
The amount is based on a flat rate for all communities in each of 10 regions. The amount varies between $5.00/occupied space/day and $9.50/occupied space/day and reflects the varying costs of delivering services in different regions of the Northwest Territories. Available only to non-profit, licensed child care centres and family day homes.

Infant incentive grant
Not available

Special needs grants
Not available

Other
A contribution to the cost of a professional training program may be available to individuals employed in child care provision or to non-profit groups. Eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis after the applicant has submitted a proposal.

Territorial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Fee subsidies	$1,048,000
Grants to programs	1,238,000
Total	$2,286,000

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) (estimate based on total territorial expenditures) $135.75

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimated) Information not available

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 9.68
Teachers	11.34
Teacher directors	12.54
Administrative directors	17.81
Overall mean hourly wage	$11.80 (approximately $23,750/year)

Family day care rates

Providers receive between $440 and $550/child/month

78

Fees (1992, average monthly)

Child care centres	$500/month
Family day care	500/month

Information on average fees by age group is not available.

ADMINISTRATION

The Child Care Section of the Department of Education, Culture and Employment is responsible for the development of standards, the regulation of child care services, the management of government funding allocated for fee subsidies and grants to child care programs, and the development of a territorial child care system.

MUNICIPAL ROLE

None

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

There is currently no strategic plan for the development of child care on a territorial basis nor specific method used to determine if a community requires additional child care.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

1971 First child care centre to receive territorial government funding was opened in Iqaluit (then known as Frobisher Bay). It taught children in both English and Inuktitut syllabics and had 4 Inuit child care workers.

1970s Child care centres set up at the instigation of parents and community members. Funding was generally through federal government Local Initiative Project (LIP) grants with some user subsidy for parents in need from the Territorial government.

1974 The *Policy Respecting Day Care Services* noted that while numerous child care services were in operation, only 2 were receiving operational financial support from the Territory (the original centre in Iqaluit and a second centre in Yellowknife).

1976 The Territory finalized a policy on fee subsidies for child care centres, family day care, and after-school programs.

1980 The Territory adopted the *Policy Respecting Subsidized Day Care in N.W.T.* which considered costs and income to determine eligibility for subsidization of children in unregulated child care

1983 Establishment of the N.W.T. Child Care Association which circulated voluntary standards for child care centres.

1985 The territorial government hired a Day Care Consultant to review child care issues and make recommendations.

1988 The government enacted its first child care legislation, the *Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act*.

The Advisory Council on the Status of Women released a policy paper on child care which outlined a comprehensive program to develop a system of child care services (*Position paper on child care*).

The first early childhood education training program in the N.W.T was opened in Arctic College in Iqualuit and was delivered in both English and Inuktitut.

1989 A consultant was hired by the Native Council of Canada to research the specific child care needs of native peoples in the Northwest Territories

The Interim Day Care Program came into force in April, 1989.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In 1993 child care responsibilities were moved from the Department of Social Services to the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

The current day care policies and programs are being reviewed and it is anticipated that proposed changes will be tabled by the end of 1993.

YUKON TERRITORY

LEGISLATION

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Act*. 1990.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Family Day-Home Regulations and Child Care Centre Regulations*. 1990.

TERRITORIAL OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD CARE

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CHILD CARE SERVICES

Unregulated child care

Maximum number of children permitted 3

Figure excludes the caregiver's own children.

Regulated child care

Child care centres
Group care for less than 24 hours a day for 4 or more children 0-6 years in a place other than a preschool, a school-age program, or a family day home.

Preschool programs
Group programs for children 3-6 years for less than 3 consecutive hours.

School-age child care
Care outside school hours for school-aged children up to 12 years.

Family day homes
Care in a private home for mixed-aged groups up to a maximum of 8 children (including the provider's own children under 6 years).

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There is no official policy regarding child care for children with special needs but integration is encouraged. There are no segregated child care programs. A child development centre in Whitehorse operates an integrated program which provides support, assessment and therapy services for preschool children with identified special needs and their families. The centre is a non-profit organization which receives core funding from the government and serves families across the territory.

ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Four Indian Bands operate licensed child care centres. Bands receive start-up grants from the Yukon government to assist with the costs of opening child care services and direct operating grants to assist with maintenance and wage costs.

TERRITORIAL CONTEXT [1]

Number of children 0-12 yrs (1991)

0-2	1,490
3-5	1,415
6-12	3,195
Total 0-12	6,100

Children 0-12 yrs with mothers in the paid labour force (1991,estimated)

Information not available

Children 0-14 yrs identifying with an aboriginal group (1991) [2]

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	515	nil	nil
5-14 yrs	880	nil	nil

Children 0-14 yrs with disabilities residing at home (1991) [3]

Use of technical aid	78
Speech difficulty	91
Developmental handicap	35

Workforce participation of women with children 0-6 yrs (1991, estimated)

Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are all under 6 yrs	725
Employed women 15+ yrs whose children living at home are both under 6 yrs and over 6 yrs	445
Total	1,170

Family-related leave

Maternity leave
17 weeks

There are no other family-related leaves (parental, adoption or family responsibility leave) in the Yukon.

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

1 - See explanatory notes on page 1 for data sources and information important for the interpretation of the data.

2 - In the Yukon, the census subdivisions in aboriginal communities, with an estimated total population of 580 people, were incompletely or not enumerated as part of the *Aboriginal Peoples Survey*. Data from these subdivisions are not included.

3 - Excludes reserves. Due to the small number of children, it was not possible for Statistics Canada to provide estimates broken down into the age categories 0-4 yrs, 5-9 yrs, and 10-14 yrs. Each category refers to the estimated number of children with that disability. There is some potential for double-counting, for example, a child counted in the use of technical aid category might also be counted in the speech difficulty category.

SPACE STATISTICS

Number of regulated child care spaces (1992)[4]

Centre-based	
Infants	98
Preschool	602
School-age	135
Special needs	35
Total centre spaces	870
Family day home spaces	150
Total regulated spaces	1,020
Children with special needs in regulated child care (1992)	35
Subsidized children (1992)	561
Sponsorship of regulated centre spaces (1992)	
Non-profit	700
Commercial	170

STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Regulated centres

Maximum centre size: Not specified

Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes [5]

Age	Staff/child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-18 mos	1:4	Not specified
18 mos-2 yrs	1:6	Not specified
3-6 yrs	1:8	Not specified
6-12 yrs[6]	1:12	Not specified

Staff qualifications
Minimum age is 18 years; one staff person per centre must have a first-aid certificate. There are no requirements for training in early childhood education.

Parent involvement
Not specified

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement
A government child care coordinator conducts one annual inspection and 3 to 5 unannounced visits per year to each child care centre. Centres are also required to have an annual fire and environmental health inspection.

If a centre is in non-compliance with the regulations, an order to comply is issued stating a specific time frame. If the centre does not rectify the situation within the stated time, the license may be suspended or revoked. In this case, the centre can appeal to the Yukon Child Care Board, composed of non-ministry people, which reviews the situation. Its decision is binding.

Regulated family day care

Regulation
Individually licensed

Maximum capacity
Up to 8 children (including the provider's own preschool but not school-aged children). There may be no more than 4 infants, nor more than 6 preschoolers where no more than 3 are infants, or no more than eight preschoolers where none of the children are infants. If there is an additional caregiver, there may be an additional 4 school-age children.

Provider qualifications
Providers must be 18 years or older and have a valid first-aid certificate. There are no requirements for training in child care provision.

4 - All spaces are considered to be full-time. However, preschool programs operate for less than 3 consecutive hours.

5 - Preschool programs which care for children for under 3 consecutive hours at a time are allowed to operate with a ratio of 1:10 instead of the required 1:8 for preschool-aged groups in child care centres.

6 - The current *Act and Regulations* only cover children up to age 6. Draft legislation which will cover school-aged children is expected to be passed late in 1993. The ratio given is the ratio in the draft legislation.

Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Family day care homes are regulated by the same legislation as child care centres. They receive one annual inspection and 4 to 5 unannounced spot checks per year by a government child care coordinator to monitor for compliance with the regulations.

FUNDING

Child care fee subsidy program

Fee assistance is paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents. Eligibility is determined through an income test, which recognizes cost of living differences in remote communities.

Eligibility for fee subsidy (net income)

	Turning point	Break-even point (estimated maximum)
1 parent, 1 child	$17,772	$28,572
2 parents, 2 children	26,172	47,772

The turning point is the income level up to which full subsidy is available. Partial subsidy is available up to the break-even point at which income subsidy ceases. In practice, there is considerable province-by-province variation in how subsidy eligibility is calculated.

Maximum subsidy/child/month

Infant	$500
Preschool	450
School-age	225
Child with special needs	500

There is no minimum user fee.

Group programs and family day care homes may surcharge subsidized parents fees above the maximum subsidy rate.

Subsidies may be used in any regulated commercial or non-profit service.

Grants for child care programs (1993)

Start-up grants

Up to $5,000 may be available upon application to start non-profit, full-time child care centres. Although any non-profit group can apply, there is no guarantee of funding. Start-up grants are available for non-profit programs only.

Capital grants

There are no grants to existing programs to assist with major capital improvements; however, a small amount of funding is reserved to assist with emergencies, for example, a furnace breaking down. The granting of these funds is discretionary.

Operating grants

The amount is determined per child through a formula which includes the number and ages of children, levels of staff training and the actual costs associated with operating the building. Available to non-profit child care programs, family day homes and commercial programs licensed before January, 1989.

Infant incentive grant

The additional costs of caring for infants is taken into account in the formula used to determine each program's annual operating grant. There is no separate infant incentive grant.

Special needs grant

The additional costs associated with caring for children with special needs are taken into account in the formula used to determine each program's annual direct operating grant.

Other grants

None

Territorial expenditures on child care (1991/1992)

Child care fee subsidies	$1,274,710
Operating and capital grants	988,295
Other (funds for special needs, grants to remote communities)	174,739
Total	$2,437,744

Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 yrs (1991/1992) $399.70

(estimate based on total territorial expenditures)

83

Federal funding: Entitlements on child care expenditures (1991/1992, estimated) $1,138,000

Salaries (1991)

Mean hourly wage in centre-based programs

Assistant teachers	$ 8.44
Teachers	9.58
Teacher directors	11.13
Administrative directors	14.59
Overall mean hourly wage	$ 9.75 (approximately $19,500/year)

Family day care rates

Providers received between $2,640 to $6,045/month, depending on the age and number of children.

Fees (1992, average monthly)

Child care centres	
Infant	$500
Preschooler	450
School-age	225
Family day homes	
Infant	$565
Toddler	503
Preschooler	491
School-age (kindergarten)	455
School-age (6 yrs and up)	227

MUNICIPAL ROLE

The legislation permits municipalities to be licensed to operate a child care centre. None do so.

CHILD CARE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Working together: A Child Care Strategy for the Yukon (1988) outlined a 4 year plan for child care development in the Yukon. As a result of its goals and objectives, new non-profit centre and family day home spaces have been created, the child care subsidy program has been revised to recognize the cost-of-living differences between communities, and the special needs program has been expanded and enriched. New programs are developed on the basis of a community assessment to determine need.

HISTORY OF CHILD CARE IN THE YUKON

1961 A preschool playgroup was included in the activities at the Skookum Jim Memorial Hall in Whitehorse.

1968 A kindergarten program and after-school tutorial session for school-age children was established in Whitehorse.

1974 The Yukon Child Care Association was formed.

1979 *The Day Care Ordinance*, providing for licensing child care, was passed.

1986 Regulations were revised and operating grants introduced.

1987 A capital grant program was established.

1988 *Working together: A Child care strategy for the Yukon*, a 4 year plan for expanding child care in the Yukon was presented by the government.

1989 The government released its strategy for the implementation of the *Working together* document and the expansion of child care.

1990 Enactment of *The Child Care Act*.

1992 Federal grant to Yukon College for the provision of distance early childhood education courses.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The consultation process on revised regulations and proposed new guidelines (which, for the first time, will cover school-aged child care) has been completed. The government hopes to adopt the revised regulations and new guidelines before the end of 1993.

The *First Year Review* (1990) reported on the first year of the 4 year plan and a final report was expected in early winter, 1992/1993. In the interim, the government changed and the final report has not been written.

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ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE[1]

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

Canadian aboriginal populations include First Nations and non-status native people (on- and off-reserve), Métis and Inuit. Although many aboriginal people live in remote and/or northern areas, there are large southern, urban populations as well.

Children 0-14 years identifying with an aboriginal group. Canada. (1991)

	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
0-4 yrs	64,350	19,050	5,965
5-14 yrs	107,975	31,930	5,435

ISSUES

Flexibility/accessibility

All aboriginal groups have child populations which are larger than the national average, making child care an especially important issue. However, aboriginal children are underrepresented in current child care services. There is a particular need for a wide range of flexible services that will accomodate the diverse needs of the aboriginal community.

Cultural integrity

The maintenance of indigenous culture is a major concern for all aboriginal peoples. Aboriginal organizations point out that general standards for child care centres are sometimes too rigid for northern and/or remote communities and that they may not reflect traditional cultural norms and practices. Culturally sensitive early childhood education, as it pertains to training and service delivery, is of special concern. There is a strong interest among aboriginal groups in developing child care that is operated and controlled by the communities themselves.

1 - See Table 7, pg. 90 for detailed information about Aboriginal Child Care in each province/territory.

GOVERNMENT POLICY

Canadian policy pertaining to child care for aboriginal people is fragmented and poorly developed. There is some funding available to First Nations on-reserve communities in some provinces but no specific policy about other communities.

Generally, on-reserve social programs depend upon the federal government for funding. Ontario, Alberta and Québec have specific agreements with the federal government which facilitate specific spending for child care in some cases. Ontario, through a federal-provincial agreement dating from 1965, funds 41 on-reserve child care programs. Québec's agreement includes Inuit communities.

On-reserve communities generally cannot access funds for child care subsidies through the Canada Assistance Plan. There is no specific policy about off-reserve Métis or Inuit child care.

The regulation of aboriginal child care, like regulation of other child care, has been assumed to be the responsibility of provincial governments. However, some provincial governments do not regulate on-reserve child care and in some provinces, First Nations communities do not recognize provincial jurisdiction on reserves.

INITIATIVES

Overall, there has been relatively little spending for aboriginal child care in Canada except through the federal Child Care Initiatives Fund which has devoted approximately 20% of its budget to aboriginal projects.

The Child Care Initiatives Fund[2] has funded a considerable number of research projects and needs assessments, several national inquiries and conferences, curriculum and administrative manuals, training projects and demonstration projects. However, these funds are not intended to pay for the ongoing costs of operating child care programs.

2 - Through Human Resources Canada.

THE BIG PICTURE...

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Table 1
Number of children 0-12 years in Canada - 1991

Province/Territory	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12
Newfoundland & Labrador	22,230	23,160	62,875	108,265
Prince Edward Island	5,750	5,830	13,785	25,365
Nova Scotia	36,925	36,505	86,255	159,685
New Brunswick	28,445	28,915	72,055	129,415
Québec	277,220	225,070	655,285	1,157,575
Ontario	432,350	416,275	964,195	1,812,820
Manitoba	50,000	48,490	110,535	209,025
Saskatchewan	47,175	47,280	112,410	206,865
Alberta	125,675	124,030	278,885	528,590
British Columbia	133,005	133,415	312,150	578,570
Northwest Territories	4,550	4,140	8,150	16,840
Yukon	1,490	1,415	3,195	6,100
Total	**1,164,815**	**1,094,525**	**2,679,775**	**4,939,115**

Table 2
Children 0-12 years with mothers in the paid labour force - 1991

Province/Territory	0-2	3-5	6-12	Total 0-12
Newfoundland & Labrador	12,609	13,016	33,456	59,081
Prince Edward Island	4,104	4,317	8,983	17,404
Nova Scotia	20,912	22,550	49,152	92,614
New Brunswick	16,249	16,958	37,579	70,786
Québec	163,844	151,307	305,214	620,365
Ontario	266,589	271,632	556,487	1,094,708
Manitoba	25,434	25,870	59,233	110,537
Saskatchewan	29,138	29,663	66,755	125,556
Alberta	76,209	73,299	157,879	307,387
British Columbia	71,533	81,947	182,111	335,591
Northwest Territories		Information not available		
Yukon		Information not available		
Total [1]	**989,621**	**690,559**	**1,456,8849**	**2,834,029**

1 Not including Yukon and Northwest Territories

Table 3
Regulated child care spaces in Canada - 1992

Province/Territory	Centre-based full and part-time child care [1]	School-age	Regulated family day care [4]	Total regulated spaces	Proportion of children 0-12 for whom there is a regulated child care space %
Newfoundland & Labrador	3,180	388	none	3,568	3.3
Prince Edward Island	3,457	592	74	4,123	16.2
Nova Scotia	10,668	n/a	158	10,826	6.8
New Brunswick [2]	7,084	n/a	78	7,162	5.5
Québec	46,355	23,830 [3]	8,203	78,388	6.8
Ontario	104,814	24,938	15,793	145,545	8.1
Manitoba	12,261	3,243	3,473	18,977	9.1
Saskatchewan	3,412	723	2,283	6,418	3.1
Alberta	43,660	n/a	7,996	51,656	9.7
British Columbia	26,348	7,188	7,391	42,927	7.4
Northwest Territories	883	n/a	80	963	5.7
Yukon	735	135	150	1,020	16.7
Total	**262,857**	**61,037**	**45,679**	**371,573** [5]	**7.5**

1 This category includes full-day and part-time spaces because a number of provinces cannot provide break-downs.
2 1991 figures
3 School-age child care in Québec is not regulated by l'Office but is operated by school boards.
4 Estimated number of children served.
5 Will not equal the sum of all types of services as given in the table. Some facilities offer more than one service and the licensed capacity for a particular facility does not always equal the sum of spaces by service.

Table 4
Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces in Canada - 1992

Province/Territory	Non-profit	Commercial	Publicly-operated	Proportion not-for-profit
Newfoundland & Labrador	561	1,889	n/a	22%
Prince Edward Island	2,657	1,392	n/a	65%
Nova Scotia	6,372	4,296	n/a	60%
New Brunswick	3,684	2,723	n/a	57%
Québec	31,643	12,454	23,890[1]	82%
Ontario	87,685	30,644	9,500[2]	76%
Manitoba	10,223	1,106	n/a	90%
Saskatchewan	3,205	205	25	94%
Alberta	15,462	28,198	n/a	35%
British Columbia	23,228	14,593	n/a	61%
Northwest Territories[3]	637	200	n/a	83%
Yukon	700	170	n/a	86%
Total	**186,057**	**97,802**	**33,415**	**70%**

Full-time and part-time spaces are included in these figures because some provinces cannot provide separate figures. Not-for-profit includes non-profit and publicly-operated.

1 School-age child care in Québec is not regulated by l'Office but operated by school boards.
2 Approximately
3 1991 figures. Source: Status of Daycare in Canada 1992

Table 5
Varieties of child care services in Canada - 1993

Province/ Territory	Centre-based full-day	Centre-based part-day	School-age	Regulated family day care	Other child care
Newfoundland & Labrador	• Day care centres	• Day care centres	• School-age child care centres	None	Newfoundland does not offer regulated child care for infants
Prince Edward Island	• Early childhood centres	• Early childhood centres • Kindergartens • Nursery schools	• School-age child care centres	• Family day care homes	• Occasional centres
Nova Scotia	• Child care centres	• Preschool programs • Nursery schools • Child development centres	• School-age programs	• Family day care homes	—
New Brunswick	• Day care centres	• Day care centres	• School-age child care	• Community day care homes	—
Quebec	• Garderies/child care centres	• Jardins d'enfants/ Nursery schools *(not regulated)*	• Milieu scholaire/ School-age child care *(not regulated by l'Office)*	• Milieu familial/ Family day care	• Haltes garderies/ Stop-over centres *(not regulated)*
Ontario	• Day nurseries (Child care centres)	• Nursery schools	• School-age child care	• Supervised private home day care (Home child care)	• Child care resource centres *(not regulated)*
Manitoba	• Day care centres	• Nursery schools	• School-age care centres	• Family day care homes • Group day care homes	• Occasional day care centres
Saskatchewan	• Child care centres • Day care centres	• Part-day programs *(not regulated)*	• School-age care care	• Family child care homes	—
Alberta	• Day care centres	• Nursery schools	• Out-of-school child care *(not regulated by province)*	• Licensed family day homes • Approved family day homes	• Licensed drop-in centres
British Columbia	• Group day care	• Preschools (formerly nursery schools)	• Out-of-school care	• Licensed family day care homes	• Child minding • Emergency care
Northwest Territories	• Child care centres	• Nursery schools	• School-age child care centres	• Family day homes	—
Yukon	• Child care centres	• Preschool programs	• School-age child care	• Family day homes	—

Table 6
Family-related leave in Canada - 1993

Province/Territory	Maternity leave	Parental leave	Famil responsi-bility leave	Notes
Newfoundland & Labrador	17 weeks	12 weeks for each parent	None	Adoption leave: 17 weeks
Prince Edward Island	17 weeks	17 weeks for either parent	None	Parental leave is available both to natural and adoptive parents
Nova Scotia	17 weeks	17 weeks for each parent	None	Parental leave is available both to natural and adoptive parents
New Brunswick	17 weeks	12 weeks for each parent	None	Parental leave is called child care leave in N.B. but is comparable to parental leave in other provinces. It is available both to natural and adoptive parents
Quebec	18 weeks	34 weeks for each parent	5 days a year	Parental leave is available both to natural and adoptive parents. Birth or adoption leave: 5 days, 2 of which may be paid
Ontario	17 weeks	18 weeks for each parent	None	Parental leave is available both to natural and adoptive parents
Manitoba	17 weeks	17 weeks for each parent	None	Parental leave is available both to natural and adoptive parents
Saskatchewan	18 weeks	None	None	Paternity leave: 6 weeks Adoption leave: 6 weeks
Alberta	18 weeks	None	None	Adoption leave: 8 weeks
British Columbia	18 weeks	12 weeks for each parent	None	Parental leave is available both to natural and adoptive parents
Northwest Territories	20 weeks	12 weeks for each parent	None	Paternal leave is available both to natural and adoptive parents
Yukon	17 weeks	None	None	

Portions of maternity and parental leave are paid through the federal government's Unemployment Insurance Act. Payment for 15 weeks of maternity leave and 10 weeks of parental leave (shared between the parents or used by one parent) at 57% of wages up to a ceiling is made through this legislation. Adoptive parents are entitled only to parental leave benefits.

Table 7
Aboriginal child care in Canada - 1993

Province/Territory	
Newfoundland & Labrador	There are no regulated child care centres on native land. There is one regulated Inuit child care centre in Nain, Labrador.
Prince Edward Island	There is one kindergarten centre on native land; it is not licensed by the province.
Nova Scotia	There are several unlicensed child care centres on native lands.
New Brunswick	There is one regulated child care centre on native land.
Québec	There are 3 regulated child care centres located in Kuujjuaq, Hasteuiatsh and Mastissini and a regulated family day dare agency in Chisasibi. In addition, there are child care projects under way in Chisasibi, Kuujjuaq and Resigouche.
Ontario	In March, 1992, there were 41 licensed child care centres with a capacity of 1,396 children on First Nations' land administered by the relevant Band Council. *The Day Nurseries Act* treats Indian Bands in a manner analogous to municipalities for the purpose of child care funding and administration. Expenses are cost-shared with the federal government through the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement.
Manitoba	There are no spaces designated specifically for aboriginal children. However, at least 24 child care centres with more than 800 spaces primarily serve aboriginal children. None are on reserves; however, some serve children from reserve communities. Three centres in the province provide culturally-based aboriginal child care services. An aboriginal child care worker training program at Yellowquill College is in the planning stage.
Saskatchewan	Saskatchewan does not license child care programs on reserves. Native organizations operate 10 licensed child care centres for native children off-reserve.
Alberta	On-reserve child care centres are eligible for federal government funding equivalent to provincial operating grants and parent subsidies if they meet provincial licensing standards. There are 18 on-reserve child care centres, 9 of which meet provincial standards. There are no off-reserve aboriginal child care centres; however, some urban programs are oriented to, and primarily serve, aboriginal children.
British Columbia	There are 11 licensed native child care centres on reserves. Generally, these do not receive provincial funding except the Infant/Toddler Incentive Grant. Four of these are supported by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, the remainder through parental fees and/or Band support.
Northwest Territories	In 1993, there were 11 regulated child care centres in 7 Inuit communities, 6 regulated child care centres in 4 Dene communities, and one native kindergarten centre.
Yukon	Four Indian Bands operate licensed child care centres. Bands receive start-up grants from the Yukon government to assist with the costs of operating child care services and direct operating grants to assist with maintenance and wage costs.

Table 8
Child care for children with special needs in Canada - 1993

Province/Territory	
Newfoundland & Labrador	There are no segregated child care programs in Newfoundland. However, one regulated centre works exclusively with children at environmental risk and their families. Financial assistance for fee subsidies for children with special needs integrated into child care centres may be available. There are no special training requirements for staff working with special needs children.
Prince Edward Island	There are no segregated child care programs. Integration is encouraged although there is no specific policy. Grants may be available to centres to assist with additional cost for a special needs child. There is no requirement for staff working with special needs children to have specialized training.
Nova Scotia	There are 2 segregated child care programs for children with special needs. The provincial government establishes a daily rate for these 2 programs. Parents using the programs are income tested. No specialized training is required. The provincial government has a policy of supporting integration. It does so by providing a grant of up to $22 a day per child to cover additional costs associated with integration.
New Brunswick	No segregated child care programs exist in New Brunswick. A network of centres operates as part of the Integrated Day Care Program, targeting children between 3 and 5 years. Centres providing integrated child care services are required to meet additional provincial program standards in order to be eligible to receive children and to access special needs funding. No specialized training is required.
Quebec	Quebec does not have segregated child care programs. While there is no specific policy regarding integration of children with special needs, it is encouraged through the availability of grants to programs to assist with the additional costs associated with meeting the child's needs. No specialized training is required.
Ontario	There is no written policy regarding integration of children with disabilities but Ontario's policy is integration to the maximum extent possible. There are few segregated programs remaining. The Day Nurseries Act authorizes segregated day nurseries to serve handicapped children 2-18 years and designated integrated day nurseries to integrate handicapped children age 2-10 years. Designated integrated programs are required to provide specialized programming and to employ a resource staff person (resource teacher) for every 4 handicapped children.
Manitoba	Grants may be available for children with disabilities in provincially-funded programs, including nursery schools through the Children with Disabilities program. There is now a ceiling on provincial funding for special needs grants. Children with special needs are integrated into many child care centres but most do not receive additional funding. No specialized training is required. The Society for Manitobans with Disabilities operates a segregated preschool program which receives government funding.
Saskatchewan	There is no written policy regarding child care for children with special needs but the provincial bias is towards integration. There are no segregated child care programs. Integration of up to 15% (25% with special approval) of children with special needs is permitted in a child care/day care centre. No specialized training is required. The child care program is required to provide appropriate equipment and furnishings and plan for child's individual needs. A grant may be available to assist with these costs.
Alberta	Alberta has no segregated programs for children with disabilities. It has a policy, currently under revision, which encourages integration of children with special needs. A grant may be available to assist with the additional cost of providing care. No specialized training is required.

table cont...

Table 8 cont.

Province/Territory	
British Columbia	British Columbia has both segregated and integrated child care programs serving children with special needs. A limited number of group day care facilities are approved and funded through a contract by the Ministry of Social Services under the Special Needs Day Care Program to provide services in an integrated setting. Specialized training is required. In these centres, at least 25% of the children have special needs.
Northwest Territories	There are no segregated child care programs for children with special needs. There is no specific policy regarding integration of children with special needs but programs are encouraged to integrate such children to the extent possible. No specialized training is required.
Yukon	There is no official policy regarding child care for children with special needs but integration is encouraged. There are no segregated child care programs. A child development centre in Whitehorse operates an integrated program for preschool children with identified special needs and their families. No specialized training is required.

Table 9
Annual child care expenditures for each child 0-12 years - 1991/1992[1]

Province/Territory	Expenditure per child ($)	Total provincial expenditure ($)
Newfoundland & Labrador	15.40	1,668,100
Prince Edward Island	109.03	2,765,648
Nova Scotia	70.76	11,420,600
New Brunswick	28.17	3,646,152
Quebec	121.57	140,725,500
Ontario	231.76	420,139,729
Manitoba	201.65	42,151,900
Saskatchewan	59.49	12,306,700
Alberta	126.03	66,613,000
British Columbia	137.74	79,694,000
Northwest Territories	135.75	2,286,000
Yukon	399.70	2,437,744

1 Estimate based on total provincial expenditures (above) and total number of children 0-12 (Table 1).

Table 10
Net income eligibility levels for full and partial child care fee subsidies in Canada - 1993

Province/Territory		Full subsidy up to ($)	Partial subsidy up to ($)
Newfoundland & Labrador	1 parent, 1 child	9,960	18,240
	2 parents, 2 children	11,040	19,320
Prince Edward Island	1 parent, 1 child	10,080	22,200 [1]
	2 parents, 2 children	14,880	39,168 [1]
Nova Scotia	1 parent, 1 child	16,500	24,240
	2 parents, 2 children	18,120	33,600
New Brunswick	1 parent, 1 child	11,664	18,012
	2 parents, 2 children	13,464	26,172
Quebec	1 parent, 1 child [2]	12,000	29,000
	2 parents, 2 children	15,000	50,000
Ontario [3]		Refer to footnote 3	
Manitoba	1 parent, 1 child	13,787	24,369
	2 parents, 2 children	18,895	40,059
Saskatchewan [4]	1 or 2 parents, 1 child	19,668	30,948
	2 parents, 2 children	20,868	43,428
Alberta [5]	1 parent, 1 child	18,710	25,765 (no infant)
	2 parents, 2 children	22,780	37,970 (no infant)
British Columbia	1 parent, 1 child	18,756	27,156 [6]
	2 parents, 2 children	22,692	31,092 [6]
Northwest Territories [7]	1 parent, 1 child	8,268-15,576	21,456-39,576
	2 parents, 2 children	9,564-18,024	22,752-42,012
Yukon [7]	1 parent, 1 child	17,772	28,572 (18 mos+)
	2 parents, 2 children	26,172	47,772

1 There is no fixed point at which subsidy ceases.
2 Two children in preschool care.
3 Eligibility is determined by a needs test with income only one of a number of items considered. Each municipality can determine the rates within the test (up to provincial maximums), a situation which creates considerable variation across the province. The province does not set maximum income levels for its approved needs test. The average income levels of subsidized one parent families in Metropolitan Toronto is $16,953 (interquartile range: $12,816.0- $20,616); subsidized 2 parent families' average income is $26,006.52 (interquartile range: $17,820-$32,460).
4 Income levels for subsidy eligibility are gross income.
5 Income levels for subsidy eligibility are adjusted gross income.
6 Centre-based 3 year old+
7 Recognizes cost of living differences in remote communities.

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Table 11
Recurring grants (operating, salary, infant grants) in Canada - 1993

Province/Territory	Name of Grant	Amount (FTE)	Eligibility
Newfoundland & Labrador	None	—	—
Prince Edward Island	Operating grants: Centre Family day care	$0.91/day/space $450.00 per year for each family day care home	Non-profit and commercial
	Infant incentive grants	$250/infant/year	Must enrol at least 1 child younger than 2 years on a regular basis for at least 6 months
Nova Scotia	Salary enhancement grants	$3.25/day/space	Non-profit (registered and non-registered) centres and family day care agencies
	Family day care administrative grant	10% of approved per diem fee or $1.65/day/space	Family day care agencies
	Infant incentive grant	Maximum $21.00/day/infant	Non-profit, full-day centres which enrol infants
New Brunswick	Operating grant	$13.55/space/year	Non-profit and commercial centres
Quebec	Operating grant: Centre	$34,202 plus 30% of the centre's revenue	Non-profit centres with parent majority boards of directors and centres whose license is held by a municipality or school board (for programs other than school-age child care)
	Family day care	$22,800 for 50 or more spaces $11,400 for less than 50 spaces plus $312/child/year plus $1,253/provider (maximum 25% the total number of licensed spaces)	Non-profit agencies
	Infant incentive grant	$6.59/child/day	Non-profit and commercial centres
Ontario	Wage Subsidy Program	Approximately $5,000/staff	Non-profit and municipal Commercial licensed before 1987 receive partial grant. Centre-based and family day care
Manitoba	Operating grant	Fully-funded programs $1,196/preschool space/year	Non-profit centres[1]
Saskatchewan	Operating grant	$360/preschool space/year	Non-profit, parent-controlled centres
	Infant teen centre grant	$425/month/child	
Alberta	Operating allowance	$936/preschool space/year	Non-profit and commercial centres
British Columbia	Infant/toddler incentive grant	$5/infant/toddler space/day	Non-profit centres
Northwest Territories	Operating grant	$5/space/day $9.50/space/day (amount based on community location)	Non-profit centres and licensed family day homes
Yukon	Operating grant	Based on formula including child's age, staff training, occupancy costs. A 20 child centre with average costs and training would get $34,200/year	Non-profit centres, commercial centres licensed before 1989, and family day homes

1 Operating grants are available in family day care homes; they are smaller than centre grants.

Table 12
Maximum number of preschool children permitted in unregulated child care in Canada - 1993

Province/ Territory	Number of Preschool Children	
Newfoundland & Labrador	4	Including the provider's own children under 12 years
Prince Edward	5	If all children are under 2 years; 5 preschoolers are allowed if not more than 2 of them are younger than 2 years; 6 children are allowed in a mixed-age group up to 10 years with no more than 2 children younger than 2 years including provider's children under 12 years
Nova Scotia	6	Eight children are permitted if all the children, including the provider's own children are school-age
New Brunswick	4	Including the provider's own children under 12 years with no more than 2 infants
Quebec	6	Excluding the provider's own children
Ontario	5	Excluding the provider's own children
Manitoba	4	Under 12 years, with no more than 2 under 2 years, including the provider's own children under 12 years
Saskatchewan	8	Including the provider's own children under 13 years
Alberta	3	Including the provider's own children under 12 years
British Columbia	2	Children unrelated by blood or marriage to the provider
Northwest Territories	4	Including the provider's own children up to 11 years
Yukon	3	Excluding the provider's own children

Table 13
Maximum regulated centre size in Canada - 1993

Province/Territory	Maximum Centre Size (spaces)
Newfoundland & Labrador	50
Prince Edward Island	50
Nova Scotia	60[1]
New Brunswick	60
Quebec	60
Ontario	Not specified
Manitoba	70
Saskatchewan	90[2]
Alberta	80
British Columbia	Not specified
Northwest Territories	Not specified
Yukon	Not specified

1 - Recommended but not mandatory. 2 - 12 spaces in centres that provide spaces for infants

Table 14
Legislated staff:child ratios in full-day child care in Canada (selected age groups) -1993

Province/Territory	2 years	4 years	6 years
Newfoundland & Labrador	1:6	1:8	1:8
Prince Edward Island	1:5	1:10	1:12
Nova Scotia	1:7	1:7	1:15
New Brunswick	1:5	1:10	1:15
Québec	1:8	1:8	1:15
Ontario	1:5	1:8	1:15
Manitoba	1:6	1:9	1:15
Saskatchewan	1:5	1:10	1:15
Alberta	1:6	1:8	1:10 [1]
British Columbia	1:4	1:8	1:8
Northwest Territories	1:6	1:9	1:10
Yukon	1:6	1:8	1:12

In some provinces, an age may fall into more than one age group. For example, a 2 year old may be categorized as 0-2 years or as 2-3 years. The ratios in this table represent a choice of the older age range in these cases.

1 The Alberta legislation covers children up to 6 years. Therefore, this ratio is for a 5-6 year age group.

Table 15
Maximum group sizes in full-day child care programs in Canada (selected age groups) - 1993

Province/Territory	2 years	4 years	6 years
Newfoundland & Labrador	25	25	25
Prince Edward Island [1]	not specified	not specified	not specified
Nova Scotia	not specified	not specified	not specified
New Brunswick	10	20	30
Québec	30	30	30
Ontario	15	16	30
Manitoba	12	18	30
Saskatchewan	20	20	30
Alberta	12	16	20
British Columbia	25	25	25
Northwest Territories	12	18	20
Yukon	not specified	not specified	not specified

In some provinces, a child may fall into more than one age group. For example, a 2 year old may be categorized as 0-2 years or 2-3 years. The group sizes in this table represent a choice of the older age range in these cases.

1 Group sizes are only regulated for infants.

Table 16
Average monthly fees for full-day centre-based care in Canada - 1991-1993

Province/Territory	Year	Infant	Preschool	School-age
Newfoundland & Labrador	1992	n/a	$360-380	$320
Prince Edward Island [1]	1991	$530	$375	$150
Nova Scotia	1992	n/a	n/a	n/a
New Brunswick	1991/1992	$382	$335	$160
Québec	1992	$407	$328	$200
Ontario [2]	1993	$795-$857	$481-$636	n/a
Manitoba [3]	1991	$529	$348	$219
Saskatchewan	1992	$418	$328	$255
Alberta	1992	$382	$348	n/a
British Columbia	1991	$608	$366	$172
Northwest Territories [4]	1992	n/a	n/a	n/a
Yukon	1992	$500	$450	$225

1 Figures for school-age children represent fees during the school year. Summer school-age fees are $350.00/month.
2 Province-wide data not available. Figures represent fees from Ontario's central region.
3 The Manitoba government sets maximum fees for all children (subsidy or fee paying) in fully-funded programs. The maximum fees are somewhat higher than the average fees.
4 Information on average fees by age groups was not available. Average monthly fees in child care centres is $500.00/month.

Table 17
Minimum early childhood training requirements in Canada - 1993

Province/Territory	Supervisor/director	Other staff
Newfoundland & Labrador	Either 1 yr ECE + 1 yr experience **or** 2 yr ECE	If centre has more than 25 children, another trained person is recommended.
Prince Edward Island	1 yr ECE	1 additional staff : 1 yr ECE
Nova Scotia	**Either** 1 or 2 yr ECE **or** 2 yr experience + 1 course + 25 hour workshop	2/3 staff : **Either** 1 or 2 yr ECE **or** 2 yr experience + 1 course + 25 hour workshop
New Brunswick	None	None
Québec	Not specified	1/3 centre staff : 2 or 3 yr ECE or degree in ECE
Ontario	2 yr ECE + 2 yr experience	1 staff per group : 2 yr ECE
Manitoba	2 yr ECE	2/3 staff : 1 yr ECE
Saskatchewan	1 yr ECE	All : 130 hr orientation
Alberta	1 yr ECE	1/6 staff : 1 yr ECE
British Columbia	Not specified	1 yr ECE per group > 3 yrs + 1 infant/toddler educator per group < 3 yrs; other staff must be in training
Northwest Territories	None	None
Yukon	None	None

Table 18
Mean hourly wage in full-time centre-based programs (all staff) in Canada - 1991

Province/Territory	Mean hourly wage ($)	Approximate mean annual salary ($)[1]
Newfoundland & Labrador	6.02	11,700
Prince Edward Island	7.73	15,500
Nova Scotia	7.95	15,500
New Brunswick	6.50	12,600
Québec	9.30	18,100
Ontario	11.38	22,200
Manitoba	9.85	19,200
Saskatchewan	7.94	15,500
Alberta	6.95	13,500
British Columbia	9.06	17,700
Northwest Territories	11.80	23,000
Yukon	9.75	19,000

1 Derived from hourly wage, based on a 7.5 hour day.

Table 19
Family day care spaces in Canada -1992

Province/Territory	Regulated family day care spaces
Newfoundland & Labrador	Newfoundland does not offer regulated family day care.
Prince Edward Island	74
Nova Scotia	158
New Brunswick	78
Québec	8,203
Ontario	5,793
Manitoba[1]	3,473
Saskatchewan	2,283
Alberta[2]	7,996
British Columbia	7,391
Northwest Territories	80
Yukon	150

It should be noted that in some provinces these figures may represent children enroled in family day care rather than actual 'spaces'.

100

1 Includes family day care and group day care homes.
2 Includes approved and licensed family day homes.

Table 20
Requirements for family day care providers in Canada - 1993

Province/Territory	Requirements
Newfoundland & Labrador	Newfoundland does not have regulated family day care.
Prince Edward Island	A 30 hour training program, 2 letters of reference and current first-aid certificate
Nova Scotia	At least 18 years, not on the child abuse registry, and cleared by the RCMP or local police as having no criminal record
New Brunswick	At least 19 years and have first-aid training
Quebec	No provider requirements specified in provincial regulations
Ontario	No provider requirements specified in provincial regulations
Manitoba	At least 18 years old; required to have a valid first-aid certificate
Saskatchewan training	18 years old; required to take an orientation training course and first-aid
Alberta	No provider requirements specified in provincial regulations
British Columbia	Over 19 years; required to have a first-aid certificate
Northwest Territories	Minimum 19 years old; required to have a first-aid certificate
Yukon	At least 18 years; required to have a valid first-aid certificate

Table 21
How is family day care regulated in Canada? - 1993

Province/Territory	Provincial regulations
Newfoundland & Labrador	Newfoundland does not offer regulated family day care.
Prince Edward Island	Individually licensed
Nova Scotia	Family day care providers are supervised by licensed agencies.
New Brunswick	Individually licensed
Quebec	Family day care providers are supervised by licensed agencies.
Ontario	Family day care providers are supervised by licensed agencies.
Manitoba	Individually licensed
Saskatchewan	Individually licensed
Alberta	The government contracts with approved family day home agencies which contract with individual providers. A few family day homes are directly licensed under the *Alberta Day Care Regulation 333/90*. These operate independently.
British Columbia	Individually licensed
Northwest Territories	Individually licensed
Yukon	Individually licensed

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ABOUT THE CHILDCARE RESOURCE AND RESEARCH UNIT

The Childcare Resource and Research Unit at the Centre for Urban and Community Studies, University of Toronto, is a policy and research-oriented facility which focuses on child care. The Resource Unit receives annual base funding from the Ontario Government (Child Care Branch, Ministry of Community and Social Services) as well as project funding to carry out specific work.

The Resource Unit has a commitment to the development of a universally accessible, comprehensive, high quality, non-profit child care system. It contributes to advancement of this system by:

- providing public education, resources and consultation to groups and individuals;
- fostering, developing and carrying out research relevant to child care;
- facilitating communication on child care;
- providing interpretation of research and policy;
- organizing and disseminating information and resources.

The Resource Unit maintains a comprehensive library and database (which are available to the public), provides consultation on policy, research and other projects, and produces an occasional paper series. Students, advocates, service providers, policy makers and others with an interest in child care may use its facilities and resources.

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